

THE

2.

most excel-
lent and pleasant
Metaphorical History
of Pefistratus and
Catanea.

Set forth this present yeare
By Edm. Elviden
Gentleman.

*Imprinted at Lon-
don by Henry Bynne man.*

CVM PRIVILEGIO

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To the right hono
rable *Edward Deuiere*, lord
Boulbecke, Erle of Oxford, Lord
great Chamberlaine of England,
Edmund Eluiden wisheth long
life with increase of
honour,



I was not with
oute wise forecaste
right honorable (that
the polytike Poets &
wise Phylosophers,
haue many times vt-
tered in pleasant Metaphors, hidden
secrets and sundry notable instructi-
ons, considering that as the minde is
satisfied with profound misteries, so
likewise the weaknes of nature is made
wel disposed by pleasant conueiance:
for as the one informing wisedome,
burdeneth the wittes, so likewise the
other refresheth the senses, reneweth
the memory, and preserveth the ten-
der appetite from tediousnesse: which
requisite recreation of me presumptu-
ously thought vppon, I haue boldlye
A.ij. or

The Epistle.

or rather impudently offred to your
honoure this present rude and grosse
conceite, wherein I haue to my slender
abilitie bestowed the fruits of my wil-
ling labour, for your honors recrea-
tion and auoyding of tedious time,
after your wayghtie assayrs finished,
not altogether voyde of secrete mea-
ning, but well perused of your Lord-
shippe, sufficientlie intending to sa-
tisfie the humor of your wise disposi-
tion. And thus crauing your curtesie
to respect of my good wil, as chieflie
bent for your especial pleasure,
rather than of my simple tra-
uell, I briefly leaue to
trouble your ho-
nour with te-
dious cir-
cūstance.

Your honors humble

at commaundement,

Edmund Eluiden.



To the Reader.

There is no Soyle so barren (gentle Reader) but being wisely vsed, will yeeld some commodity: In like case nothing so vnpolished but may be somewhat adorned. Wherefore, boldly lette mee craue thy patience to accept this my simple indeuour: and it shall be the redy way to incourage a gros conceit to somewhat better fertility. In the meane season take this presente simple gift as for thy recreation, meaning wel, and the better if thou conceiue therof vprightlye: in readdyng therefore, peruse and perusing, take that thou thinkest for acceptable, and that which thou iudgeth weake,

To the Reader.

let thy good will ratifye: and so do-
ing thou shalt iustly recompence my
travail, the which though it bee sim-
ple, requyret rather the iudgement
of the gentle, than the prayle of
the slanderous, or sentence
of the captious.
Farewel.



The Argument.

Where brother was: of treason he accusde
the Louers both: and Champion not refusde,
In combat fought: the Kenedox was slaine,
and louver thus were rid from former paine
Then Champion dead, was Pefiltrate exild
frō Ladies sight, whose chaunged robes bee
His foes despight: the proclamatiō made guild
that Pefiltrate to proper soile should vade,
He there ariude. preparde a valiant hoste,
wherewith returnde into Italian coast.
He slew the fo in open chalenge fight, (spight
that erst had wrought the troubled man such
And Lady woonne, he tooke hir to his mate,
and liude at ease, and dyde in happie state.

The



The Historie of Pesi-

stratus and Catanea.



A fertile fruitfull happy soyle
Which Grecia bath to name,
And pleasant Appollonia lande
contained in the same,
There flourished the courtly race
of Aganetians kind,
Which stained eury hauty blond
in valure of the minde:
And in the midst, when flickering fame
had spred her selfe to praise,
To Aganetians did amount
more happy golden dayes.
For when Aganetos, the cheefe
of Aganetians rout,
Began to leaue his youtiful yeeres,
proceeding to misdoubt:
So fortune fauored his case,
that he possesse the gaine,
Whose want, had long dismayd his sense
and caused him to complaine.
And from Veronia, whom he chose
to be his matched mate,

I. v.

There

The History of

There did proceede two goodly imps,
which glorified his fate.
And after his decease, when death
inroched on his yeares,
They did renew their fathers fame,
and had not then their peeres.
For when the perilous dispatch
of childish age was spent,
In no disorder, but in use
which dangers doth present
And they approcht unto the time
when season doth indue
The sense with reason, and the wights
which reason do insue,
These youthful Knights did tracke the steps
that sire had trod before,
In such an ample valiant sort,
as they could do no more.
One Kenedoxus, the other eke
he Pefistratus high,
The yongest last whose fame my pen
doth purpose to indite,
Who chiefly through his valure great,
so satisfied the sire,
That Pefistratus to prefer
the father dyd desire.
And therefore when as crooked age
did onerate his backe,

And

Pelistratus & Catanea,

And he oppress with faint disease,
did feele of force the lacke,
He calls to him these brothers twayne,
who present thus he sayde:
(But to the elder first his speeche
and meaning he conuayd:)
Thou Kenedoxus knowest wel
the Aganetians fame,
And to be Aganetian, heire
thou lookest for the same:
And since it is thy right, my soure,
I graunt thou shalt inioy
The very same, without my let,
disturbance or annoy:
But oh my welbeloued babes,
consider in your braine,
How I haue labored for your wealth
and for your proppre gaine,
In seeking to suppress the foes
which gape for the dispoyle
Of Aganetians, vnto whom
I alwayes gaue the foyle.
I meane the Tetimetians, they,
who burne in furies fire,
To haue on Aganetians bloud
the ful of their desire.
But what conflicts and combates fierce,
it needes not to be shewne,

that

The History of

hath bin betwixt my selfe and them,
for it is wel knowne.
Now this is my request my sonnes,
your promesse may uphold
The same, which Tetimetians haue
so deely to me sold,
For wel I do perceiue, by cause
there is two springals sprung
from Tetimetians, you shall feele
their wrath ere it be long:
And therefore warily provide,
and manfully pretend,
In al their fierce assaults, your selues
with courage to defend:
Wherof, not only you shal reape
immortall happy praise,
But also gaine a quiet state,
attaining to the staves
Which nere your predecessors could
before you yet possesse.
But euer, for your sakes, haue liued
in wearisome distress:
And for by cause your stomacks might
in no wise seeme to faile,
Nor once your harts, in your defence
and quarel for to quaille,
I will declare to you, the cause
from whence began this strife,
Which

Pesistratus & Catan ea.

Which hath indured, euer since
the entrance of my life.
When Turkish nation did assay
our Appollonia soyle,
To bring the same unto decay,
and to a shamesul soyle,
Tetimetians auncel by craft
and treason did conspire,
Unto the Turkes against the same,
for priuate prouling hire:
Which, when your graundfire Aganes
perceiued to be so,
How Tetime by treason wrought,
and was so great a fo
Against his native countrey (mobbe
by nature to the same)
He brought before the armed rout,
this Tetimes to shame:
For there in open audience he
his treason did discry,
Which done he offered to approue
the matter by and by.
Wheras in open sight, by force
this Tetimes he slew,
And after slayne, his trayterous corps
vpon a dunghil drew.
Which when the chieftaines viewed wel
of Aganes his might.

And

Pelistratus & Catanea.

And how the traytour he had layne
in maintenance of right.

They al consented and agreed,
your graundfirc should possesse
Tetines heritage, wherein
he took a firme release,

And Aganetians ever since
haue so intoyde the same,

Wheron the Tetimetians most
their malice do pproclayne.

Thus know you al the ful effeate
(my childzen) of the case,

And therfore seeke you to inlewe
your graundfircs former case.

But vnto thee Pelistratus,
with fatherly consent,

I giue my blisse, as much as of
a father may be meant:

And wil thee only, to maintayne
the Aganetians fame,

And to reuenge these foes dispiht,
vnto their further shame:

And whatsoever either of you
by force of foes attayne,

I wil it do redownd to thee,
as for a rightfull gaine.

And so he stint, and gulshing teares
proceeded from his eyes

Alpon

The Historie of

Upon his brest, like dropping dewes
descending from the skyes:
And force did faint, and waivering life
was vp and downe proft,
Til at the last in happy time
he yelded vp his ghost.
But, when to brothers did appeare
their fathers mourneful death.
With roaring voyce and wyking cryes,
and sighs and sobbing byrth,
And wolful howlings, plaintes, and teares,
and piteous mones, they spend
Their youthfull dayes, in ruful soyte
vnto a painefull ende.
But in a season, when the rage
of burning did aslake,
(Whereby the boylings did delay)
they did begin to make
The rich and sollemne funerals,
(according to the vse)
Of fathers carkasse, meete for rarity,
which done without abuse,
With al things incident thereto,
the brothers, though dismayd
Through death of fire, yet did deuise
how the thing might be sayd:
But Pefiltratus, cheefely mooude
by nature to the same,

To

The Historie of

To brother Kenedoxus, thus
his speeche began to frame:
Though we unhappy haue great cause
with teares vs to complaine,
Yet leason (brother) seemes to craue
we should therfore restraîne,
And though it be both natural
and duty we do so,
Yet is it needeful to surmise
on furies of our fo:
And therfore, sorrow let a side,
and pensiuenesse from hart,
Let lustye blouds of Aganes
be bold to do their part,
In seeking to maintaine the same,
the honor and renowne,
Which Aganetiars heretofore
haue gayned, as a crowne,
Wherin you seized, must possesse
the profits of their toyle,
And therfore most had neede to care
herein, and most to mayle:
And I, as duty doth me binde,
and others sweete request,
To maintnance of my brothers wealth,
am alwayes ready prest.
And though our father now deceast,
is so for euer gone,

Pet

Pesistratus & Catanea.

Yet let our fathers breite preceptes
Be alwayes thought vpon:
And since his greatest charge was this,
That we, deuoyde of blame,
Should maintaine auncestors renoume,
and put our foes to shame,
As needful now, let mutual braynes
suppose vppon the case,
That we may both auoyde our payne,
and beautifie the rase |
Of former Aganetians, who
haue bid their former care,
That we successors vnto them,
may likewise partly beare
The fruitfull flower of their fame:
thus doing may we say,
Our auncestors haue wel begonne,
and we haue made the day:
But otherwise, if we should slacke
our duties to pretarre,
They should not be so much a shame
to vs, but we a scarre
To them, and those which shal inher
of Aganetians blood,
Who after vs, may rightly say,
wee neuer did them good.
'Tis true, quoth Kenedoxus then,
I graunt to your desire,

B.

And

et

The Historic of

And gentle brother to these things,
I willingly aspyre:
And therefore, as our fathers wil,
of you so likewise I
Do craue, these matters to dispose,
and I shal nought deny,
But vize my trauel, to pursue
the force of your aduile,
From whence I doubt not, but the prooue
of profit wil arise.
And thus these brothers do conclude
their talke, and now begin
To follow the effectes therof:
whom I wil leaue herein,
And vnto Tetimetians rage
my penne and I must binde,
For to discry the mind at large,
and matter they intende.



The Tetimetians waying well
how every thing doth stand,
And how Agenetes is dead,
and they of stronger hand,
And how the brothers be the chiefe
of Agenetians route,
Wheron they gather lesse suspect
or motion of misdoute,

Pesistratus & Catanea.

In fell and furious rancorous rage
So fiercely they abound,
That now in haste, but al in wast,
they hope straight to confounde
The Aganetians, and proceed
in wrathfulnesse and ire,
By sundry wiftes and secret craftes
to worke the sayde desire.
But Anteres, the principall
of Teumetians, be
Perbussing better of the case
than al the rest could see,
Amongst the midst, began with voyce
amounting, thus to say:
My friends and Reueres, be attent
to that I shal display:
The Aganetians (as you knowe)
the quarel do defend,
And we desirous of reuenge,
the quarel do extend:
Now, since the quarel is our owne,
and that we seeke our fame,
We ought to chalenge them, as so
we get no further blame:
And therefore note what I intend,
I haue (as you do knowe)
Two sonnes proceeded from my loynes,
who daily seeme to grow

The Historie of

And to increase in prowes great,
and these shal chalenge those,
I meane the brothers, which disced
from parties of our foes,
In meeete appointed place to proue
that Tetimes was slayne
By treason false, of Aganes,
who falsly did it faine,
And if the brothers do consent
to come in poynted place,
And dare presume to meeete my sonnes
and looke them in the face,
Wee wil ordaine the chiefest strength
of al our noble blond,
To helpe my sonnes, if ought should chaunce
to them moze worse than good:
And by this meanes, as by a shift
when they are present there,
We shal the Aganetians all
suppresse, deuoyde of feare.
To this, the Tetimetians glad,
were very wel agreed.
And therefore, shortly to conclude,
it briefly was decreed
Of al the Tetimetian route,
that chalenge should be made
Of Tetimetian brothers, who
consenting, cause to bade

Pelistratus & Catanea.

A berlet dight in posting haste,
to Aganetians frayne,
Who did informe them of this thing,
and then returnde againe.
But none amidst the baliant route
of Aganetians, more,
Than Aganetian brothers toyde,
to heare of this before.
For it was chiefly that they wist,
and therefore did prouide
Eche requisite and needful thing
for the appointed tide.
And not vnlike to Lions fierce.
who rage for wante of pray,
They burnd and boylde in furies fire,
till the appointed day,
The which approcht, the furious youtthes
be mette in foysaide field,
With barbed bozle and steely cotes,
and blade and speare and shield,
And after course of rankrous talke,
with staffe in steady weast,
Eche youth appointed, for his foe
is now alredy prest.
And traitterous Tetimetians they,
as erst they did deuise,
Where in ambushment prynces hid
in secret, so likewise

The Historie of

The Aganetians eke, vnknowne
did closely couche in place,
Where they suspecting of their foes
and of the foresaide case
Did lie, their nephewes to defend,
if reason should assaile
To worke them mischief, wherein much
their watching did preuaile:
For when eche youthful knight had met
and buckled with his foe,
Like thunder rattling in the skies
which tumbleth to and fro,
At last the Tetimetians force
began to fainte and faile,
The which when Aganetians spide,
more fiercely did assaile
Their foes, with overcharging thwackers
til Tetimetians route
Espying those their nephewes fare,
in hast did rushe them out
From bushes, like to buckling boares,
vpon the brothers twayne
Of Aganetian kind, and thought
the brothers to haue slayne:
But Aganetians likewise hid,
as furiously do meete,
From couert bushes, these they? foes,
in their defence to greete,
And now begins the stirre a newe,

Pesistratus & Catanea.

for every man doth straine
himselfe with al his force and might,
to put his foeto paine,
But most surpassing all the rest,
the prowesse, and renowne
Of Pesistratus did excell,
who so suppressed downe
The rage of Tetimetians pride,
that through his Martial might
And manly courage, to conclude,
they put their foes to flight.
And then in better peace, than eare
when they sustaynde annoy.
They did rejoyce, with happy heartes
and stomackes stufft with ioy,
But woe to Fortunes tickle wheeles,
who seemeth to aduance,
When with his froward kicking heeles
He charmeth a mischaunce:
Thou blubbered blind and bleared eyde,
thou fond and fickle soale,
Thou thyce and thyce accursed Wench,
thou gyle of Momus schole,
Why doth thy saulie finger touch
these manly Martiall knightes?
Why doest thou so infect these youtnes
with thy impossned spightes:
Art thou not thyall: not thyall ywis:
doth fortune eche thing guide? Why

The Historie of

Why then, alas, attend to heare
of this unhappy tide.

The Aganetians thus returne
from former feareful boye,

The conquest got, by knightly force
in giuing foes the foyle,

In season after sweete repast
receiued, they deuise

And mutually consented now,
they purpose to surmise,

How that the spoyle they haue obtaynd
of foes, may parted bee

Amongst them selues, and hereupon
they seeke for to agree.

But when as Kenedoxus biewde
this purpose and intent,

In hope to haue the whole him selfe
and all the rest preuent.

With forced voyce and fyled song,
and bawtie glozing stile,

He mobde his speech as thus, and crabde
attentiuenesse a while:

You balliant impes and worthy limmes
of Aganetians race,

Considering what you do intend
and purpose in this case,

I thinke my selfe the boldier may
proceede for to declare

Such

Pesistratus & Catanea.

Such certaine things, as to be shewne
both good and needeful are.

You know, of Aganetians I
by duty do retaine

The landes and lordships, which by right
to me the heyre remaine:

And now bycause we haue of foes
by force possess a spoyle,

Wherein, more landes we purchasse haue
contained in this soyle,

It seemeth requisite to mee,
that I possesse the same,

Bycause thereby it may enlarge
the Aganetians same.

For if our lands should be disperst
and not in one mans vse,

In tract of time it would returne
vnto our owne abuse:

And therefore note what I shal say,
let me the lande possesse,

And what your partes amount vnto,
I will the same addresse

With ready payments into golde,
how answere you to this?

None answerde but Pesistratus,
who sayde it were amis

That he should seeme so to incroche
vpon the same, whose right.

Was due to him by Sires bequest,
 if foes were won by fight.
 Which when the Aganetians wayd,
 remembryng it for true,
 That by the fire it was disposde
 for Pefistratus due,
 With one accord they did consent,
 that Pefistratus, he
 Should it enioy, as fathers will
 hath graunted it to be.
 But Kenedoxus mobde to wꝛath,
 with swelling face for ire,
 Did brast out these vnseemely wordz,
 and no wise would aspire:
 What balue moze hath bin resinde
 from Pefistratus part?
 Oꝛ manly pꝛowesse, than of me
 and of my willing hart?
 Oꝛ why should such vnequal dole
 be offred for my paine?
 Since I my care, as much as he,
 haue blde for to maintaine
 The Aganetians worthy fame,
 whose worstblest beire am I,
 And therefore hold it greatest skoyne,
 that you should so denie
 To render me my rightfal due,
 oꝛ strongly to withhold,

Pelistratus & Calanica.

**My proper right, it likewise seemes,
my brother is to bolde:**

**Not bolde, quoth Pelistratus then,
in seeking for mine owne,
But you to bolde in wrestling mine
as it is well yknowne.**

**Which wordes when Kenedoxus heare,
with hautie spitefull hart
He left them all, and rancrous ful
did furiously depart.**

**Repairing to his chamber, where
deuoto of quiet rest,**

**His raging braynes vnbridled boyle
in fierce Alecks best,**

**And fuming in the furious fits
which madnesse intertaine,**

**As one distraught of sense and wittes,
he puts himselfe to paine,**

**In raging for to seeke reuenge
in most despightful wise**

**On Pelistratus, whose disease
he ceaselesse doth deuise.**

**But Aganetians musing much
at Kenedoxus rage,**

**And Pelistratus seeing it,
desirous to atwage**

**The same, with leaue requested, hies
to Kenedox in haste,**

Where

The Historie of

Where as appzocht, his brother spies
to mumble very fast
Unto him selfe with rayling boyce
on Pefistratus, who
Percciuing Kenedox, as madde
to raile vppon him so,
Had entring, thought by gentle words
to molifie his ire,
But Kenedoxus seing him,
auoyde and come no nyer
Quoth he, for (villaine) I will seeke
as much thy great defame,
As thou hast sought, in open sight
of frendes to worke my shame.
Yet Pefistratus (carterous knight)
replide to him againe
With gentle kind of humble speech,
and sought for to refraine
him selfe from wraath : but Kenedox
so furiously was bent
Against Pefistratus, that fraught
with fierce and fell intent,
He dierwe from secret sheath, as wone,
his desperate testie blade,
Wherewith on Pefistratus, hee
so fiercely did invade,
That had not Pefistratus slept
from chamber doze in hast,

Pesistratus & Catanea.

His curteous heart of brothers blade
had felt thy vnſauerie taſt.
But Peſitratus viewing this,
with Rapioꝝ had in hand,
Returnd againe to brothers face
his rigoꝝ to withſtand:
And mobde by this occaſion luſt
to anger, caitife vile
(Quoth hee) wouldſt thou in brothers blood
ſo cowardly deſile
Thy filthy ſiſtes? and art thou meant
to ſeek thy friendes decay?
If ſo, in a conuenient place
and on appointed day
Agree to get reuenge, and ſeek
thy quarell to renew,
And I this blade in traiterous blood
of thine ſhal there imbꝛue:
Wherewith eche partie did conſent
in poynted place to meete.
And when the ſeaſon was approchte,
as time doth ſwiftly fleete,
Theſe youtheſ are met, prouided both,
according to the time,
With ſpeare and ſhield, and bloudy blade,
to tell eche others crime,
Not with the tong, but Martiall liſt,
in ſuch vnfriendly ſort,

The History of

As eche did indge his foe, no friend,
oz for to play in sport:
But now began the broyle so hot,
that who had scene the blowes,
The deadly thrustes, the desperate soyres
that eche to other howes,
The battring bangs, and thumping thwacks
that eche to other lent,
With stayned fildes, of brothers bloud
so carelesly dispent,
He would haue it all surmysde, that these
Should naturall brothers be,
But rather friendes of Cerberus kynde,
oz impes of Hels decree:
So furious fierly did they deale,
without remozle of life,
Oz nature, but respecting nought
saue cause of former strife,
Like Tigres fastening on their pray,
the sought eche others death,
Til both had laboured with such paine
that they were out of bzeath:
And then they bzeathed and fought afresh,
and bzeathde and fought agayne,
And neuer stint, til at the last
there came with might and maine
A great conment of armed knyghtes,
who had in forrest by

Pesistratus & Catanea.

Bin chasing, through their martial scates
a dragon monstrous hie,
And of proportion wonderful,
who long had brought to spoyle
The corne and cattel therabout
contayned in their soyle.
And when the knights had from a farre
espide these brothers fell,
Eche so assaulting others life
with bloudy blade to quell:
With picking spurre, they forward forst
their bodies to be bozne.
And when approcht, they biewde the knights
so batterd, taggde and tozne
With dint of sword, it was no boote
to bid them forward hie
To part the foes, for it was done
in twinckling of an eye.
But Kenedoxus what through heate
and want of breathing winde,
And what through faintnesse of his wounds,
he to the earth declinde
As dead, for Pesistratus had
impicist with cruel thrust,
his shoulder through, whom when he biewd
to grouel in the dust
his heany hart was so agast
and he in dampes dismayde,

The History of

Bycause he thought his brother dead,
that thus with teares he sayde:
O lucklesse wight, oh cursed youth,
and hath this this my fist
My brother slayner and shal I live?
no, no, I wil vntwisse
My vital knotte, and this the knife,
which wrought my brothers death,
Shall likewise pierce my cruel hart,
and stop my vitall breath.
And therewithal in desprate mood
he set the hilts on ground,
And thought with point of piercing knife
to take his latest wound:
But present knightes withdrew his hand
from that vntimely acte,
And sought how to perswade hym now,
(since finish't is the fact)
The he departe from native soyle
into some foraine place,
Whereas, deuoyde of further feare
and daunger, he may passe
his life in safetie, both from foe
and peril of the lawe:
To which Pefiltratus agreed,
when he the daunger saw,
That woulde ensue vpon his case
if he were bent to stay,

And

Peliltratus & Catanea.

And therefore speedily prepares
and takes his ready way
To secret place, where he might hide
his woful head a space,
Til season that he may convey
his steps to further place,
But there arrived, woful man,
his troubles so increase,
And he so vexed is in griefes,
which no wise he can cease,
That at addeest to mourneful cheere,
his cares he doth discus,
The which prouokte his forced penne,
in verse to utter thus:

OH heauie hart dismaid,
oh stomacke stufft with paine,
Oh woful wight, oh cursed wretch,
why wouldst thou not complaine?
Art thou in pleasant state,
or hast thou cause to ioy?
No no, thy fates are frownst in feares,
come death and ridde my ceasles annoy,
Oh cruel carelesse wretch,
doest thou deserue thy life,
since thou thy gentle brothers breast
hast pearst with cursed knife?
What meanest thou to liue?

To the tune
of Damon
& pythias

The Historie of

and wilt thou life enioy?

No no, thy fates are frownst in feares,
come death and ridde my ceasles ano:

You fatal sisters all,
you twisters teare my threede,
With fatall knife my fatal knott
to share in hast proceede.

For I vnhappy wretch
am cleane exilde from ioy,
And liue in woes, in griefes and feares,
come death and ridde my ceasles anoy

And then the wretched heauy wight,
doth spende the tedious tyme
In plaintes and teares, and vbering griefes,
betwaping former crime,
In such a mourneful sorte, as who
had seene the man in feares,
To scald his pleasaunt youthfull chekes
with such excelsse of teares,
His heauy hart would yearning, melt
to heare his woful mones,
Whose griefes might moue the fixed starres
or mollifie the stones.
And yet (vncessant) doth he frounse
his hart in these his woes,
Regarding nought but wished graue
his carcase to inclose:

Whom,

Pesistratus & Catanea.

Whom, so dismayde in droule dumpe:
amidst his cares I leave,
And now to Kenedoxus state
my quill I must bequeane.



O heauy case, ambition should
because of such annoy,
That mutual bloudes should be disperd
and so denoyde of ioy:
Oh haplesse chance, vnbappy thrice,
how fel is greedie rage,
That it should pester so the partes,
which reason can not swage?
Hlas alas, ambition was't
that kindled al this fire?
And was't ambition which addrest
the brothers so to ire?
And was't ambition from the whence
this greuous case so grew?
Ambition was it, wherfore harke
what did thereof insue.
Pesistratus for feare thus fled,
within a certaine space
When dumps auoyded, vital course
returnde to proper place,
Then Kenedoxus did reuiue,
and musing very much

The Historie of

To see so great conuent of knightes,
full fraught with former grutch,
His body raised from the ground
in hast with desperate blade:
As one distraught of reasons sense
he fiercely did inuade
The knightly troope there present, who
dismaide to see the same,
Yet wisely pondring that to strike
it would be to their shame,
Intreated often him to cease,
pronouncing bowes, that they
Were all his friendes, and minded least
to seeke for his decay.
Which waying, he perceyuing eke
the man not present there,
On whom he sought reuenge, and what
more cause he had to feare,
Swoone stayde his handes, and gently then
he gan for to request,
What cause compeld their presence there,
to be in armour drest,
Who answered, certifying him
of al the former case:
And how his brother they had sent
into a forreine place,
Bycause they feared he was dead,
supposing it for best

Pesistratus & Catanea.

He should depart, than there to liue
in daunger and vnrest;
But oh the dolor that redoundes
to Kenedoxus hart,
Implicating euery baine with griefe
or rather deadly smart,
When first he vnderstood the same,
yet quickly was it layde,
For gayne and ranckour did perswade
so much, that soone he stayd
Therefrom, bycause his greedie hart
had now the thing attaind,
I meane the landes for which so much
of trauaile he sustaind:
Per further thinking of the thing
when he perused well,
And saw that Pesistratus had
the conquest as it fell,
Bycause that he was left as dead:
oh how did ranckour rage,
In boyling breast, as popstied fire
whych floodes may not assuage:
So fiercely fretting did the fume
of choler frame his ire,
That if by suffraunce he might had
the ful of his desire,
He would for anger haue destroyed
himselke in desperate minde,

C. iij.

Such

The Hiltorie of

Such was the scoznesful pride wherto
hys stomacke was inclinde.
And twixt these passions, dolour so
attempting him, quoth he,
And is he fledde, and doth he thinke
to scape and to be free
By flight? no, no, though he suppose
I am a senselesse coze,
Ere it be long he shall abide
and thoroughly feele my foze.
And therewithall a spightfull bowe
in solempne wise he made,
That tyme should nere content his harte
till he with deadly blade
had pierced Pestratus sides,
whose then effused blood
should onely tend for to suffice
his ire and do him good.
Oh friendlesse frettes of bawtie wrath,
O tyme of serpentes kinde,
How could thy stomacke so desire,
thy brothers life so blinde?
What restlesse rage assaulteth thee,
what strange disguised sort
Of diuinish Gods, constraineth thy wil
such lewdnesse to support?
Thy brother doth complaine, to thinke
of thine unhappy fate

And

Pesistratus & Catanea.

And his unkindnesse, thinking him
in more unhappy state.

And with excesse of piteous teares,
and blubberings, sighes, and cryes:

The lothsome tedious tyme he weares,
in a most moznesfull wise.

And not so much for his exile,
as doubt of thy misfate,

Pet thou accursed, onely seekst
and dost employ thy care

To bring thy brother to his ende,
regarding nature nought,

For yet the concord which by right
of brother should be sought.

Oh woful hearing, what a thing
is this, that such a knight

As Pesistratus, fraught with grace,
with vertues, and with might,

Who long may live in quiet rest:
to do his country good:

Should so by rancorous spight be lost,
to flee from native brood?

The cause of mone is very much.
and it disturbs me still:

Pet now compelled to leave my teares,
I must ordaine my quill

To further thy deserved fame,
Pesistratus thou kinde,

The Historie of

Whose praise I wish were printed plaine
in every bodies minde.

The hauntie pride of rancorous rage,
turmoyling thus in breast

Of Kenedox, when spiteful wordes
by tract of time were ceas,

Associated with the route,
of forslayde hunters trayne,

He is arriv'd at pallasce where
he wonted to remaine:

And he no sooner scypled had
his footesteps in the towne:

But it was risely blowne abroad,
and spred for true knowe

That Kenedoxus was approacht,
and almost dead through wounds,

The which as by report to al,
so likewise it resoundes

Unto the bearing of his freindes
and kinsmen, who agast,

With speedy haste did provide
to visite him in hall;

And present viewing how the wight
was dyed in his bloud,

Wherein he wallowed as a beast;
because they understode

Nothing of former case, as how,
Pefiltratus had sped

Pesistratus & Catanea.

His brother so: nor how for feare
of daunger he was fled:
With musing much they did demaund,
of his unlucky fare:
To whome the circumstance of all
did Kenedox declare,
Which vttered in dispightful sorte
and in a raging wise,
With blaisted face and stamping feete:
his kinsmen did surmise,
And wisely pondered of the case:
which well perusing, they
Perceiue that Kenedox was cause
of this unhappy fray,
Wheron they chiefly did repute
to Kenedox the blame,
Who fiercely fuming more in fets
did rage to heare the same:
And they agreed for to thinke
of Pesistratus crile,
Were euen as fiercely bent againe:
to rough and raging file,
Wheron eche partie was displeased:
for Kenedox was mad,
To see his brothers case betwixt
when he the worse had:
And they lamenting, rued the time
that they had lost the wight,

The Historie of.

A meane Pefustratus, whose helpe
was all their chiefeft might:
And therupon fuch taunting checkes
and wordes from euery fide
Proceeded forth, that greued they
no longer would abide
With Kenedox, but curft his pride,
and iudgde him for their foe:
As likewise he no otherwife
of them efteemde but fo.
And thus departed they, whom now
as cause addrefst to ire:
So cause to Pefustrate doth moue,
my pen for to retire,
The only reaper of the praife,
and gainer of the fame:
Which this my fimple rude difcourfe,
indeuours to proclame.
Who thus by fortune forft to hide,
his head in little fpace:
Prouided wel for to conuey,
himfelfe to further place)
For as it fel, a vefel riggde,
and redy dyest to ride,
Towards Italian coaftes, was there
the very felfe fame tide
That he arrived at the place,
wherto before he fled:

Wherof

Pesistratus & Catanea.

Ober of the woful man was glad,
that he so wel had sped.

And therefore briefly did conclude
with sailer for his hire:

The which agreed with prosperous winde,
and tide to their desires

They set alose, and hoysed sayles,
and daunst amidst the seas,

With easie, calme, and pleasant streames
at their desired ease.

But Pesistratus he' alas,
for all these foresaide things:

Could not brayap him selfe from cares,
or such pernicious stings

As troubled him through former fault,
but ceaselesse did lament

His cursed crime, which with excesse
of teares he did repent.

Yet at the last when fancies fill,
he tumbled had in braine:

He somewhat left for to distill
his teares, and to complaine,

And gathered stomacke, as behoues
a man in such a case:

For to retaine, though with much paine,
as Pesistratus was.

And therfore he auoyding greifes,
and setting cares apart:

Con-

The Historie of .

Considering what was requisite,
with courage fraught his hart,
And craved aid with crouching knees,
of mightie loue his hand:
Desiring comfort might preuaile
his dolour to withstand.
Which prayers made, as one renewed,
and not no more annoyde:
He felt his burdened hart more light
and cleane of cares deuoyde.
And therefore thanking mighty loue
for sodaine such reliefe,
He cleane forlakes his drouisie dumps
and doth disdain his griefe:
And with a cheereful brayne provides
hys voyage to forecast,
Suppying of the things to come,
and not of matters past.
And seekes to recreate his sense,
and to refresh his minde,
With spending tyme in pleasant sort
and sportes of comely kinde.
Whereto Aurore and Tyan both
do seeme for to agree
With pleasant golden glittering rayes
to bych mutual splendante bee.
As eke the siluer surging streames,
which likewise seeme to play

Pesistratus & Catanea.

In pleasant sort with Titans beames
which beautified the day.

And thus the season seeming fit,
in tract of time at last,

With helpe of Zephyrs gentle breath,
their iourney ouerpast.

They arrivde in confines of

Italian partes with ease,

Where as approcht, Pesistratus
doth safely leave the seas,

And takes his way to certaine place,
where he was bent to bide,

Till season that he might devise
a maister to provide,

Whom he might serue, supposing so
to spende his tedious dayes:

Yet hoping wel in tract of time
to finde some other wayes

To purchase credite, whereby he
might happier fate attaine:

Wherein perusing thus, he thought
to vse therein his paine.

Alas what cause thou woful wight
hast thou to make thy mone?

How canst thou brooke? to serue a knight,
since thou thy selfe was one

Of worthy fame, and prowesse more
in Grecia soyle containd:

How

The History of

How may thy nuzzled custome bee
by neede so much restraind:
How canst thou frame thy selfe to crou:
since crouching vnto thee,
It was thy duetie to receiue
the crouch of cap and knee?
How canst thou suffer for to leaue,
the silken robes of thine:
And now thy tender corps, to weedes
of basenesse to refine?
How canst thou gnaw of refuse bones,
when wont it was thy trade,
To feede of sweetest saouring meates,
that ioply iunckets made:
How canst thou beare the taunting check
of maisters common vse:
O? how can stomacke be content,
to liue in such abuse?
How mayst thou bryoke the felowship,
of simple seruaile kinde:
O? how mayst thou forbear so much,
for to subdue thy minde:
Since all the routes of courtly traine,
were seruaile vnto thee,
And redy prest to execute
the wil of thy decree?
Howe mayst thou frame to weare in ste
of golden linked chaine,

About

Pelistratus & Catanea.

About thy necke, in bondage yoke,
of seruitude and paine?

Yes yes, thou canst, thy gentle hart
is voide of haucie pride:

And thou as wel canst ease deny,
as it hath thee denide.

And take thy fortune as it fals,
thou canst forbear the same:

Wherefore I shall addresse my pen,
thy vertues to proclame.

And thys my verse though not as wel,
as faine I do desire,

Bycause it wrought in Plutos forge
is tride with scarce good fire,

Yet shal indueoz to proceede,
to paint thy further prayse

In full effect, who so wil heare,
though not with haucie praise.

Pelistratus in former plight,
and place abiding stil,

Expecting for a service such
as might content his wil,

Considering of his doubtful state,
and case, perceiued playne

That there to stay, it were a thing
but frustrate and in vaine.

And therefore he departed thence,
where first he did arine:

The History of

Well hoping of a fitter; lace,
where better he should thrive:
And as he traueelde, fortune so
by fauour brought to passe,
That wandring witlesse vp and downe,
not knowing where he was:
There dwelt an auncient Hermite by,
in Sabels all yclad;
With hoary beare, and countnaunce graue,
of gesture very sad,
Whom Pefistrate espying soone,
prepared for to meete:
And after met in curteous wise,
and maner did he greeete:
And after greeted, did disclose,
the summe of all his care,
Requiring Sire to haue remorse,
to hys unlucky fare:
Desiring further that he would
bouchsafe to entertaine
Him in his seruice, wherein he
did bow to vse his paine.
To whom with gentle speech the Sire
did curteously reply,
That he was bent to liue alone,
as likewise so to die:
But viewing both the seemely shape,
the countenaunce and the grace.

Pesistratus & Catanea.

Of Pesistratus, in tract of time
when he had paus'd a space:
My Sonne (quoth he) I pittie much
the cause of thine annoy,
And would to god my power could stretch,
to worke thy further joy:
But if my simple cottage may
suffise thee for to please,
And to remaine with me my sonne,
thou thinke it for thine ease,
My hart contented is to graunt,
therin thy whole request:
As likewise for to pleasure thee,
in ought else am I prest.
For which Pesistratus did thanke
a thousand times the Sire,
That he vouchsafed so to graunt
the thing he did require.
And thus a yunte Hermit he
become, they did repayre
Unto their little cottage by,
auoyding open aire.
Where as rescission taken they
as earst returne to walke
Againe: and then the Sire begins,
in former wise to talke.
Deinaunding Pesistratus, why
he left his native soile:

D.

Who

The Historie of

Altho blanke to speake, yet fearing least,
he purchase Would a toyle,
Deuisoe a shift: and as he thought
to speake, in boisterous haste
A Lion fierse with stamping feete
who therby had bin cast,
Came flinging fierly towardest them,
with open roaring voice
And gaping mouth and staring eyes,
and fearefull hanging toyle.
Whom when they sawe the father feare,
began to cry: Oh knight,
Thou hast deceiv'd me, whereon
the Saints do heare my sight,
But Pessimus was advisoe,
preparde his sword and shield,
The whych in iquity he had borne,
and brought into the field:
And with a courage met the beast,
in such a rigorous foyle,
That plaine by force, he set his tayle
on ground, for al his poyle.
And further fierly so attempt,
that with his testy blade
he split in twayne his hart, before
recouery could be made.
And whilst so manfully he dealt,
the chafers following fast,
Were

Pesistratus & Caranea.

Were present come, who viewing this,
were wondrously agast;
This only one durst so assault,
the best whereby they befoze
Durst not inuiron or attempt,
without at least a score.
And feared sore, when he so sawe,
the vallant knelle of harts.
In Pesistratus began to cry,
S. George is of our part.
And with a thousand yclod thanks
he gratified his paper;
Desiring pardon for his wordes,
when erst he did complaine.
And Pesistratus thus attaine;
the conquest of the beast:
Which after was the chiefest cause,
that set his hart at rest.
For in the route of the conquest
of chasers, was a knight
Of promesse great, and valure like,
who Pecipater hight:
He bare the most and chiefest sway
in countries therabout,
But chiefly in Tarentum towne
a little boorde of doubt:
Because it flourish through the meanes
of Pecipater, who

The Historie of

Beholding Peliſtrate his fight,
by ſtrength and courage ſo;
Was mou'd with inward burning zeale
of fauour to retaine
As though his lope were ready preſt
to quite Peliſtrate's paine.
And therefore, when his victory
by Peliſtrate attained,
Eche turmoyle caſt the eaging heaſt,
by force was ſore ſtraight.
Myth comely grace on courſers coys,
he Peliſtrate doth reioyce.
Whom myth abundant curteſie,
the gentle knight did greete,
And after ſalutations made
to him and to the ſee,
He doth of Peliſtrate's ſtraight,
with frendlyneſſe require,
By what adventure he was bytaen
to meete the chafed beaſt?
Who did enſoyme him of eche thing,
and aunſwere his requiſt,
With no leſſe gravitie than words,
in ſeriously order ſet,
And geſture courtly, comely grace
and comelineſſe as great,
Which Peepater noting well
and liking, did deuife

Pesistratus & Catanea.

In semblant sort, to utter that
his fauile did surmise
To crane, which was in fellowship
Pesistrate to retayne:
Whose peerlesse promesse he esteeme
eche mortal wightes to haue.
In season therefore sitte assigne,
he moues with pleasant stile,
His frendly wordes, and thus saide he,
it were a great exile.
My friende Pesistratus that we
by happy fortune met,
Should part, whose presence neyther cause
nor season seemes to let:
But not so much exile, as griefe
and dolour vnto mee,
Who should esteeme thy presence left,
my selfe not to be free.
But thal to care, such is the zeale
that stirreth my desire
To crane thy presence, wherfore yelde
to that I do require.
I can not chuse saide Pesistrate,
but very well suppose
Of al the proferd friendship which
so friendly you disclose.
But yet the balencelle of my birth,
and barenesse of my state,

The Historie of

And rudenesse of my persone, seeme
vnfitte for such a mate,
Which be the motions that compel
me bololy to deny
(My pardon crabbe) for to assent
thus to presume to tie,
As match the mate, whose bondage may
besleme my seruile kinde
More better farre, than for to yelde,
to your desirous minde.
Yet Pecipater could not be
sufficed with the same,
Nor iudged the abasing of
himselfe to be defame:
But was unoptunate the more
to haue him to agree:
Wherefo Pecistratus vnder thanked
did yeld. vnder he did see
The gentle valure that was shynde
in Pecipaters brest,
And ioyde in hart to thynke his state
was settled at such rest:
That where as eiaist an exile wight,
he wandred vp and downe,
He note a rulers mate hath reapt
by fortune such renowne,
And thus agreed, they do repayre
with, fire to cottage by,

Where

Pesistratus & Catanea.

Where as a while they did prouide,
their weary hymnes to lye
At moze of ease, and then refresh,
with taken leaue of Sire,
Unto Tarentum whence they came
they buskied to retire.
Wyth a horn Pesistrate worthy knight
departing: toke his leaue
Of soylsayde Sire, whose with the like
to god did hym bequeaue.
And now ech praunser ready prest,
with eny thing furnisht fit:
As tracking trappers, saddels trimme,
and large restrayning bit:
The lussy valiant youtiful knightes,
proceede with stamping pace
And posily gesture, towardeis that
the layd desired place,
And moning talke of hunters trade,
they reason of their game,
Wherby Pesistratus was knowne
as expert in the same,
Is present any, whereon eche
did iudge and deeme his race,
Moze rather rightly to proceed
of royall bloud than base.
Whose comely countenaunce pleased so
eche wight, that eche man thought

D. liij. hjm

The Historie of

Himselfe a happy mate, that fate
had such companion brought.
But Pecipater happiest hee,
esteemde amongst the rest
Himselfe, that what he chiefest sought,
such fortune had addrest:
And thus eche partie well content,
such friendlynesse doth flowe
From every side, that Pesilstrate
lets forsaide sorowes go:
And only now deuileth he
their curtles to requite:
And thus whilst tract of time by stealth,
had taken proofe of flight,
And they approched had their pace,
vnto Tarentum nie,
Pecipater a barlet sendes
before, for to discry
The conquerers wonne, and that bys wil
was eche man should prepare
Against bys presence seemely shewes,
their conquerers to declare.
Which message done by barlet, was
provided in the towne:
For triumphe eche thing redy fitte
pretending great renown:
As ballant route of armed knights,
with glistering helmes and shieldes.

Pesistratus & Catanea.

And blazing banners set aloft,
in turrets, fortes, and fieldes,
And trumpets sounding vp triumph,
and drummes pretending fame:
And tangling belles with Squashes arte,
wel placed in the same.
And diuers well deuised toyes,
and sundry pleasant sightes,
Attendant ready for the same
of these triumphant knightes.
And al the chiefe and nobles there,
assembled ewre likewise
In decent order for the nonce,
eche thing was so precise,
Amidst the which, the royal race
of Pecipaters blood,
The blest roome and worthiest place
possessing: seemely stood,
Their worthy kinsman to salute
wyth such aduised prayse,
As doth becom for worthy wyght
which hath deseru'd prayse.
Whych was so passing pleasant sight,
as could be wisht no more:
For both of lusty youthful knightes,
and glittering dames such flore,
Were present, as in Tarent towne,
the like was neuer seene:

The History of

No yet in all Italian costes,
no better could haue bin.
Yet most surpassing all the rest,
in beauties beames as farre,
As glittering glee of Phebes forme,
surmountes the twinkling starre.
Was present one, a certaine dame,
who Catanea hight,
The sister to Pecipater,
a peerelesse gemme by right:
For seemely such she was, as though
shee framed were in molde:
With equall grace, so equal matcht,
as tong may not unfold.
Here beauty, blazing nixt in sight,
within hir angelike face,
Then in the Skies, the golden rayes
of Tytans raumping race.
Such perfect feature firmly fixt
within hyz secret frame:
As though by right, dame Nature scoynde,
the chalendge endlesse fame,
With curteous countenance, comely corps,
and posture demure,
So rare that Gods might seeme to bow
hir faulde to procure.
And so indude in every point,
wch natures speciall giftes,

Pelistratus & Catanea.

As though shee onely perfect wrought,
eche else by fayned Mistes.
This Pimphe with al the foxe layde route,
now ready do remaine:
Expecting for the presence of
hir brother and his trayne.
And viewing thus at last, she spies
the knightes approached nie:
Wheron eche thing prouided proues
his powres for to tye:
For trumpets sound, and shalmes reorde,
and cornets quieter fast,
To gratifie the conquerors
with sweete saluting blast.
And every thing reioycing, seemes
to make a pleasant tide.
Wherein the seemely knightes be come.
And they arrived ride
in decent order, prauencing fast,
on corpes of comely Queene:
Which satisfide eche eyesight well,
his farre for to see:
For first the youthfull valiant knightes,
conducting prauent before,
In seemely ranke and posely grace
as toth before the host.
And then Pecipater in midst,
with Pelistrate proceeds,

The History of

By certaine signe pretended wel
the proofe of eche mans debes:
For Percipater had a brad
of wyld and rusked Boze,
Which he hymselfe by force had slayne,
transported him befoze:
And Penitrate of Lyon fierce,
the great and gristle dird
Which he had slaine, as cril was layde,
befoze hys cour set led.
And thus in Tarent stretes aribde,
the people al reioyce,
To see such baliant sight, wheron
was moude so great a noyse,
As though with thake they wold hane rais'd
the Conquerours to skies,
So glad the people fo; their praise,
did moue such lofty cryes.
But enery wight that marked well,
Penitratius his grace,
His feautred limmes so sightly set,
and pight in equal place,
As though the Gods had all agreed
to frame of earthly molde,
In humane forme a wondrous worke,
fo; nature to bebolde:
Not little musing, praised much
his balace in their minde:

Whole

Pesistratus & Catanea.

Whole peere in every poynt they iudge,
a man should neuer finde.

And stil proceeding forwarde thus,
at last they came to place,

Wheras remainde the royal troupe,
of Pecipaters race.

To whom they vsde reuerence such,
as like was vs'de againe.

With modest countenance, to the route
of Pecipaters traine.

But when Pecipater hymselfe;
with Pesistratus was

Therto appoche, who then had scene
the curtisie did passe

From part to part, he would haue thought
Minerua had indude:

Their selfe the scene behauiour there,
with none such gestures vs'd.

So courtly countenance did unfold
the meanings of the minde:

Extending outwardly wherto
the senses were inclinde:

And after salutations thus
concluded, to the praise

Of Pesistratus Pecipater
to Catanea sayes:

If one surpassing other ebe,
a peerlesse may be blight:

Thus

The Historie of

This youth possess with rarest giftes,
Deserves the name by right:
Indude with courage, fraught with truth
abounding full of square.
And nature's giftes so seldome leane
as fewe retaine the same.
Wheron by person greeting well,
to Penitrate she saide:
His presence welcome, thysse and thysse,
but silly he dismaide
To viewe the seldome beauties blaze
appearing in his face,
And eke his ednely protraiture,
and correspondent geare:
As if of wits thought did stande,
infused at the hart:
With Hens some and pointed point
of Cupides fiery dart:
And had no power to moue his speech,
his tong was so restrained:
Nor render thanks, his nummed sense
was so in secret painde.
For passing time extending strength,
such hart: thanked quoth he,
I yelde and widd, as by my tong
they may not betterd be.
Which well she weened, marking eke,
how course of blood did change,

Pesistratus & Catanea.

Is likewise wisely viewd his baynes,
in panting wise to raunge:
Yet all the rest suspected least
therof, but onely waide
The comely answere to his,
It seemely wise he sayde.
For which in minde eche did commend
by much, pretending so
In cuttous wise as he could deeme,
in presence none a foe:
And then in one consent they went
to Pecipaters place,
There for to be such meete repastes,
as fitted for the case.
And Catanea she alone
with Pesistrate did walke,
Who by occasion movde, did be
such sober friendly talke,
As either partie liked well,
wheron their stomackes flame
In mutall love, and Cupides fire,
proceeding in the same,
In zealous wise, though that but knowe
it was to either, how
The others hart to others will,
was redy for to bow.
And thus eche trapped in the snare,
of loveaine seemely light,

Their

The Historie of

Theyr families feeding on the baites,
of further lones delight.

When voyage finish't, they are come
to Pecipaters place,

Each g'ft well greeted as behouers,
such curtsie for the case,

And Penitrate lyke welcom'd: they
perseuer further still,

Myth filed tong, and pleasant stile,
to please ech others will.

Tyl such time as season bid
their appetites requir's,

With natur's nourishment to feede
their natural desire.

The which approcht, provided wel,
such delicacies they had,

Of every commendable kinde,
as hart no more might want.

It were a folly therefore to say

I further should pretend:

For to describe their sumptuous feast,
and to frustrate end.

By cause to be told this may it seeme,
the whole for to disclose:

It was as delicate and fine,
as fable might suppose.

This matter worthie is, I will
proceede for to relate

ing

The

Peliltratus & Catanea.

This Peliltratus worthy playse,
and Cataneas same.

Of whom my purpose toke in hand,
with pen for to endite

Their sodaine loue, and constant faith
to set in open sight.

When feast was flusht, and the day
intending to his ende:

Sir Titan leaues his splendant streames,
a while for to extende.

The guesstes with rendyng hartly thanks,
be redy to repayre,

Eche to hys home, as cause did moue
their presence to be there.

And Catanea with them bent,
in likewise to departe

Hir brother left (who witht hir yet
to stay wyth willing hart.)

Did minde to wend to dwelling place,
where wanted he remainde,

Of uncle hys, who from his youth,
in vertues had hir trayned

To perfect age, yet not forgot,
she takes desired leaue,

Whom Pecipater to the Gods
tustion did bequeane.

And then to Pesilstrate she frames
hir speech in gentle wise:

E.

Wel

The Historie of

Well wishing to his person health,
and so the homeward hies.

But who had seen the countenance of
Peintratus when he,

Perceiv'd he must forgo the sight,
which most he cravde to see.

He would have thought the silly man,
were redy prest to dye:

His heavy dolefull gestures so
his sorowes did discerie.

With the perceiving, could not chuse
but blush and was abash't.

Wherby his ruddie rising blood,
in countnance fully flash't.

At first: but afterwaxe his heart
for sorow waxing colder.

No blood at all his pale face,
by any means could be held.

And thus the lonks at the last
departing, heavy chere,

Did force offe of an inward thought
at large for to appere:

Though certaintie it was not knowne,
to eke of others lonks.

By cause experience had not tride,
in season it to proue:

But for my happy fate to thinke,
of curtesie I finde.

Pelitratus & Caranea.

Of you, and long to see the day,
whereby may be resignde
Some part of recompence for this,
your friendly friendship found:
Which well I may suppose in none
more amply to abound.
And when the place auoyded thus,
of guesles no more remainde,
But Pefiltrate, whose heauy hart
was so by griefe restrainde,
from comfort cleane, Pecipater,
espying him alone,
Demanded why he was so sad,
and seemed for to mone:
The whom sayd Pefiltrate, my Lord
I haue no cause to waile:
Nor yet occasion that with griefe
my stomacke should assaile.
The recompence already done,
(quod Pecipater) is:
And therefore friend Pefiltratus,
surmise no more of this.
But thinke: as Salutes do witness beare,
that for to do thee good,
I minded am in thy beualse,
to spend my proper blood:
If therefore that thou shouldst misdoubt
hereof, what might be sayde:

C. ij,

But

The Historie of

But that I Would with teares lament
the same, and so he sayd
To speake: and Pefistrate he led
from thence to chamber by,
Which was provided for the nonce,
his weary limmes to lye.
Wher Pecipater further did,
hys sciencelike protest,
Desiring him there for his ease
to let his quiet rest.
For which Pefistratus did thanke,
both with his mouth and minde,
hys gentlenesse a thousand times,
and then to couche decline.
And Pecipater did depart:
but when a little space
Pefistratus had line on bed,
revolving of his case,
He was so vexed silly man,
that nothing could appease
Or once asswage his sorowes, but
increasing hys disease,
He thinks of Catanea, who
hath so in fetters yoke
his louing heart, that all his ioyes
to thraldome are prouokt.
And he suppress to bon: age like,
and so the miser lies

Be.

Pesistratus & Catanea.

Be'wailing such his wretched fates,
with sundry plaintife cries.
And when he thinks, how much unlike
he is to get reliefe:
The more in doubt and deepe dispaire
increaseth still his griefe:
And thus dismayd, in diuers dumps
he lyes, and woful wight
Dyspaires, and yet he hopes, but fears
least time should worke delight.
And wrapped in the dulled drouse,
which fortune hath assignde
Unto his pay, a thousand thoughts
sarmiſing in his minde:
His turmoyle withs inforced so,
his sorowes to discusse,
Did b'ge hys fault'ring tong at last
with paine to utter thus:
O wretch, what friendlesse fates be thine,
thou curſed catife thyſe:
How felst thou fortunes forward force?
how do thy cares arise?
How canst thou suffer such annoy?
how maieſt thou more forbear
Such griping greefe, with pinching pangs
so beheimently to tear
Thy hart in sunder? yelde thy knife
from thy unhappy hande,

The Historie of

To rid thee from such vexed life,
thy dolours to withstand,
For banished from native soyle,
thou liv'st an exile here,
And yet art bittled with the yoke
of penitencie and feare,
Compuncted with the sodaine sight,
and trapped in the snare,
Of one who skornes thy loyall loue,
and least regards thy care.
Alas what therefore wouldst thou do,
but to thy death consent:
Since fortune doth, and season least
to thy release relent?
No worth the curst time when breath
was yelded unto thee
In mothers wombe, would popson had
more rather bin thy fee.
No worth the tyde, when to the world,
of mother thou wast borne:
Would then thy childish tender limmes,
had bin to fatters torne.
No worth the fode that euer since,
thy nature hath sustaine.
No worth the nurse that from mishap,
thy youthful age restraind.
No worth the creaking cradle which
was rocked for thine ease:

Would

Pelistratus & Catanea.

Would the dispozt had bin addit
thy humoz to displeafe.

Wo worth that ere thou wast aduancit
in native people scile:

Would God thy brothers handes had giuen
to thee thy latest foyle.

Wo worth the cursted fist which wrought
thy brothers fatall paine:

Which was the cause that brought thee here,
and moues thee to con plaine.

Wo worth the vessel which conueyd,
thy corpe to present place:

Neptunus craue his seemely sides,
and all his ladies deface.

What should I curse and further say,
to rid me of my smart:

But death dispatch my lothed life,
and furie blast my hart.

But brainlesse foole why curse I thus
my selfe, and cry out so:

More seemely were it that I blist
my selfe, and curst my fo,

Who is the cause of all this grieke,
and worker of my paine:

Why should I not with taunting song,
bit willy hautes disdain,

Which hath my senses so dectuide,
and yelded such annoy,

The Historie of

Unto my pay, that in despaire

A line deuoyde of ioy.

Oh Pefilrate, art thou to learne,

of womens wonted willes?

Art thou to knowe, that sooner none

the Shep, than Foxe begiles?

Art thou vnskillfull of the trade,

of womans wanton lure?

Hast thou not hard what fond conceites,

their practise flighis procure?

Yes, yes. reue to memozye

their ticklenesse of will:

Their poyfined lookes, their fained grace,

their counterfained skil,

I trow thou needst not to be taughte,

their practise is so playne:

That women all by kinde are bent,

and nature, for to sayne.

For if she biew the personage, which

doth please hir in hir mind:

Then seeks shee to display hir snares,

as in familiar kind.

And if consenting he pretend,

to vse hir in likewise.

Then seemes she coy, and stranger streight

and is as much precise.

If humble he, then haughty she,

and seemes to scorne his sute:

But

Pesistratus & Catanea.

But if he coy, then bateth she,
and frowning standeth mute.
And if intrapped, he bewaile
to his carefull fate.
She seemes to muse, what loue should mean
and laughes at his estate.
But if she loue, and he dispise
to put the like in bye:
Then labors she by subtle slights,
his fantasie to procure.
Which got, she seemes for to triest,
regarding nought at all:
But loyes and iudgeth it a sport,
to purchase him a fall,
Shaine therfore so to let thy minde,
on such despised loyes,
Which binder weaeth, and moue defame,
and breed thee such anoyes.
And settle wits to such aduise,
as may prouide thee rest:
From louely fits, for reason seemes
such fondnesse to detest.
Suppose the Lady whom thou lovest
were ment for to requite
Thy loyal loue with loue againe,
were this thy cheere delite?
Forgettest thou the unfaithfulness
of Helen, who forsoke

The History of

Our spoused Menelaus, and
to Paris his betoke?
Of falsed faith of Cressida,
whom Troyus serued long
Remember how these fickle dames,
did worke their louers wrong:
And let the griefes of Troylus,
and Cresseds vniuering minde,
Be warning to thy louing fits,
least like requite thou finde.
And seeke in time to brydle will,
least after some repast
Of pleasure had, thy griefes renue
a thousande times as fast.
What say I, should I leaue my loue
and Catane forsake?
Or should my fantasie cease so soone,
or sernice thus aslake?
And should I now despise the dame,
whom earely my zelous hart
So lov'd, that for hir sake it could
sustaine eternall smarte?
No, no, the fire shall lose his might
the sunne his golden glee,
And heauens thes beu, before such thought
surmised be of mee:
For curteous nature, gentle grace,
and seemelyness abounds,

Pesistratus & Catanea.

So risely, as to eury eare
it famously resoundes:
With feature such as Venus wee,
hir selfe may not compare,
Nor once presume in equal sort
hir vertues to declare.
Nor Dian for hir chastitie,
to match hir birgins race,
Nor once Minerva boughsafe will
to set hir selfe in place,
Not onely this, but eke of hye
and famous stocke wee springs,
Wherto as reputation like,
daine Fame dayly forth bringes:
Since therfore thus she wanteth nought,
that fancies may require,
How mad man I from such a dame,
to brydle my desire:
And how to blame for to reproch
the comely courteous kinde
Of women, since such heavenly giftes
they do possesse in mind.
But oh alas, accursed wight,
why thinke I of hir hie:
What doth it bote hir woorthy state
or birth for to renne?
What doth she lodged vertues in
hir tender gentle brest

Prologue

The Historie of

Prouoke my ioy, or noble byrth,
intend to worke my rest?
No whit at all, but those things most
compel me to misfarr,
And depely do wone me in misdoubt,
and dabble all my care.
For since she wanteth nought at al,
the which I seme to crane.
But doth possesse eche needfull gift,
that more she may not haue:
The more inferiour do I seme
to hir, whose royall grace
My simple byrth in scorning sort
may bitterly deface.
And do dispaire when eche respect,
I ponder in my minde:
As thinking of hir haughty state:
how basely mine inclynde.
For where she come of noble line,
doth liue with honored name,
I silly wretche in exile state,
do purchase nought but shame:
And she determino, at hir case
doth liue in wished ioy?
I poorly spend the troublous time,
misdoubting more anoy.
Alas, alas, why thinke I then
of this, since playne I see,

Pelistratus & Catanea.

Whir birth, his state and vertues rare
so unfit for my degree?
O why presume I so to match
my selfe with royall race,
Why? wel I may presume, because
I live in hope of grace.
In hope of grace? why blynded soole,
doth grace grow from disdain?
No skorne of hope: yes skorne of loze
in haucie harts remaine:
In haucie harts I do agree,
but in a gentle brest
Doth fauor flow, and haucie skorne
is betterly suppress.
But is thy Lady lowly such?
yea certesse: can loftie state
I gree to match with simple slave
and make decay his mate?
Yea Cupid forgeth Keylers bende,
and layeth Princies pride:
Yet knowst y not thy Ladys minde,
because thou hast not tryde.
Then trye I wil: how darst thou trye?
my hope prouokes me so,
What cause of hope hast thou? beware
thy hope is most thy foe.
Whir outwards shape is cause enough,
my hope for to maintaine:

Through

The Historie of

Through slightly bait the silly fish
receiue his latest baine:

Alas then death to thee I yeeld:

thus saide the woful wretch,

And therewithall his torbed limmes
he gan abrode to stretch:

And through his greefe the sticking smarte
that sucked through his baines

Distild the water to his hart
which so increast his paines,

That silly senses overcome
he fainteth to the ground:

And dampish humors lothsome life
inclosed in a wound

In time when vitall course redound
according to his kinde:

His sprites reuiue, but yet his griefes
were printed in hys minde.

And raising then himselfe againe
vpon his tousel bed,

He layes his weary limmes to muse,
and rest his heauy bed.

But rist disdaynes his furious frets,
and hope doth scoone his helth:

And nought doth happen to his hope
that might renue his welth.

And thus in painful plight the time
maintaines his lingring life:

Pesistratus & Catanea.

He wishing only vital twist,
were cut by fatall knife,
And having no dispozt ne cause
of comfort in his care:
The more he strives, the more hee is
intangled in the snare.
And therefore patiently perforce
he takes his chaunced fate:
And wallowes in his woes as doth
behoue a louers state:
And then he thinkes of Catane,
supposing of hir grace:
Whose comely countnaunce minding wel,
his fancies sees hir face,
And ponders of hir friendly looks,
as e hir seemely cheere:
And doth imagine of hir shape,
as though she had bene there,
In present sight he painted so
hir feature in his thought,
As if Apelles through his Arte,
hir picture had ywrought.
Then dreames his burvor, that he makes,
to Cresside his complaint,
And thence his care and case, as how
hir beaurie did attraine
his simple senses at the first,
which streight subdued were,

Alto

The History of

Unto his yoke, as servile slaves
to harme, to hope, and feare.
And now the passing pangs, that hee
sustayned for his sake,
He tels, and how his divers doubts,
do cause his hart to quake.
And then he sues and craves for grace,
to purchase at his hande
his full request, for to be sold
from bondage and his band.
And then he thinkes his Lady seemes
some fauor for to shewe,
But out of this amaze his wits
reutude, when he doth know
That only fassle fedde his feare,
and no such thing to bee
As he ymaginde in his hart,
or thought his eye should see.
The grieufully griping griefes and rage,
that broyled in his brest:
And qualming coldes did so agreeue,
and worke him such vntreast,
The stely twerch his vitall courte
distempered, he detesteth,
As one, who to the heauens againe
his spirits had resinde.
And still, as ofte as he reuiues,
he separated downe againe.

Pesistratus & Caranea.

And thus the thirde unhappie man
was turmoyle in his payne,
Whilste luckie fortune draue, by chance,
Pecipater to please,
Where Pesistratus was diseased
and bered in such case.
Whom biewing he with thyking cryes
did moue so hye a voyce,
That Pesistrate from former traunce,
renewed through the noyse.
To whom Pecipater did prayne
his wofull speech, and sayd:
Alas, Pesistratus my friend,
what ceasles cares bechaynde
Thy yowthful race, that bered thus,
thou spendst thy wofull dayes,
In ceaslesse plaintes, in moones and teares,
and seekes no othre wayes
For to auoyde the cause of griefes?
whence cometh this thy care?
What thing doeth cause? what wight hath
thy dol vnlustie fare? (wyllyght)
And so he stint, and shalving teares
distilling on his brest,
Pesistrate layde: let not my grekes
be cause of thine vnrrest
My Lord: for ten times cursed I,
haue forling cause to waille,

Yet not for present cause which should
my woful hart assaile:
But thinking on such matters past
as in my country done,
My vanquish't stomacke much displeas'd
was so by dolour won,
The which import me to complayne:
nought els my Lord surmise,
But let this serve (quoth Pefistrate)
your fancy to suffice.
By this excuse was he dissolv'd,
that nought should move his griefe,
But matters past, and therefore seeks
to yeelde him some reliefe,
As might intend for to expel
Pefistrats thoughtfull care.
The which allur'd his brauy hart
to somewhat better fare.
Yet though a little were decreas't
the torments of his payne,
The countenance of Catane,
was buried in his braine:
And thus he frowns't amidst his thought
and feeding fancies syl.
I leave a while, and shal resigne
to Catane my quyll.
Whose dewy dumps, whose dainty douts,
whose sickle fits, whose fears,

Whose

Pelistratus & Catanea.

Whose grilly goultes and piteous playntes,
whose sobbes, whose sighes and reares,
To paynt at large, you Furies teach,
you Nymphes dispose my style,
Apollo guyde, Minerva minde
my mazed muse a while,
Departed from his brothers place,
arrived when she was
Where she remaynde, in secret wise
to closet by she pas,
Where all alone, surmising of
the matters past of late,
She gan to muse, how Pelistrate
by sodayne happie fate,
Should meete his brother as he did:
and musing thus in thought,
By Cupides force, in fancies fire,
attend what thing was wrought.
Foraking to respect the chaunce,
perusing in his minde
Pelistrats comelynesse, she thought
in what a courteous kinde
He did salute her, when at first
she shewed his friendly face.
And how in sodaine sort, his bloud
did course from place to place.
And thus respecting of his change,
his fancies did consent,

f.ij.

That

The Historie of

That if he lobde, the like of hir
for ever Would be meant.
For why? perusing eche respect
that nature had bestowde,
She sayd in minde, in Pefistrate
that al these vertues flowde.
And thinking of his postynesse,
ther could not but suppose
His comely gesture to excel:
and thus hir thoughts arose
So long as til at last insnarde,
like little fishe on baite,
Who long hath playd with pleasant bayte
and in the ende is toke,
She is refrained, hir fre dome lost,
and had no power to starte,
But firmly bound, and fixed hath
to Pefistrate hir harte.
And thus consented to this new
and firs zealous loue,
From whence no power she could attayne
hir fantasie to remove,
She tumbled hir diseased corps
on couch, to ease hir minde?
To whom Mercurius, Sopor hath
in sodaine softe resinde:
And stricken with the droun rodde,
the winged fellow shewes

Pesistratus & Catanea.

To hir in dyme Pesistratus,
whose countenaunce wel she knowes,
Of whom she thought she did receiue
a ring of purest golde,
With bloudy letters therein grabde,
the which when she did hold,
Did seeme to blede excessively,
and al hir self defilde,
Wherin, Mercurius fled away
and Sopor cleane crylde,
She waking straynd hir slender throte
in such a piteous wise, —
As well I deeme hir sighs and sobbes
did pierce the byell skyes:
Yet seing that it was but dyme,
contented somewhat moze
She layd a while, but knowing wel
the fearefulnesse befoze,
Her passions then beginne a new,
and ceasles she complaynes,
With heauy mones & triking teares
increasing double paynes,
And gan of eche especiall poynt
to ponder and surmise,
As of the ring, and of the bloud,
but nought she could deuise
That might maintayne the token good
of bloud that did distill,
f. iiij. When

The Historie of

Wheron not able for to rule
hir selfe, nor guyde hir will,
Through veyring grieve hir carefull thought
suppressing senses force,
She lyes in traunce as though distraught
of lyfe, like senselesse corse:
And when as vitall course returned,
in former plight she spendes
The time renewed, and crassly not,
but earnestly she sendes
hir sobbes and sighes from laden hart:
yet after season past,
When tract of tyme delayed had
the fiercenesse of the blast,
Wherby the stomacke more at ease
was somewhat more at rest:
She pondring further of the thing,
began much to detest
The former rashnesse of hir loue,
accompting it a shame,
That erste hir tickle will was bent
to such deserved blame:
Wheron for grieve that such abuse
had blinded wandring wits,
hir tong was movde amongst the rest
of these hir diuers sittes,
To paint despyght, in such a softe
with scornful taunts conuayde,

Pelistratus & Catanea.

It might suffice for fantasies ease,
and thus the Lady sayde:
If reason ought for to perswade
the foolishnesse of wil,
O wile forcast to teach the trade
that doth ingender yll,
O counsell leade the weakling wittes,
whom knowledge doth not guide,
O else experience we w the pꝛactise
of matters to be tride,
How much vnwise accursed I,
whom neyther reason led,
No yet forcast could make auoyde
the daungers may be byed,
No counsel moue for to beware,
no by experience past
I ouise my selfe, but haue agreed
in such a sodaine hast
To fix my foolish fantasie faste
on such a doubtful wight.
Who for his fault in native soyle,
hath bytter made his flight,
O else for wante of succour there,
is glad to vse his payne.
In foireyne partes, as toyling wretch
to get his byed gaine?
O wretched wench, and couldst thou thus
consent to exile slaue,

The Historie of

And purchase paynt vnto thy pay,
bewitched dost thou raue?

Suppose the infamy, the Shame,
the pouertie, the care,

The fall, the losse of former fame,
the ruinous misfate

That were addiſed to thy case
if matcht to such a mare,

Thou wert content to yelde thy selfe
to his abased state:

And thinke how might thy kindred scope
thy will, and yelde thee blame,

As also how thou shouldest deserue
and reape reports of shame.

Might it not rightly bee replyde,
thy fondnesse was thy fall?

And would not thy abuse be scornde
and mockt, yea certes of all.

Why then, disosaine such foolishnesse,
and let thy selfe at rest,

Anoyde such Shame, forcast thy cares
and case, for this is best:

And let such cause of thyne annoy
be turbest from thy thought,

Least stomacke wgon, thou shouldest to late
repent the thing were wrought.

And then she pauſe, and then agayne
in new reſoluing minde,

how

Pesistratus & Catanea.

How much is scornful tong (quoth Wee)
to scornfulnesse inclin'd?

Why blame I so the seemeliest Knight
that earthly globe containes?

O, why presume I to reproch
wyth tong which nought restraynes,

But vomits al his verime out,

Pesistratus, whose grace,

Whose comely corps and seemely porte
discries hys loyal race.

Why name I hym an exyle slaue,
whom gesture doth bewray

For to proceede from princely lyne,
and season doth display

No slaue, but for his manhode tryde
a worthy ballaunt Knight,

As hath appearde by prowesse probde
of late in open sight?

And why a toyling wretch cal I,
the noble youth with Name?

Whose benozed acts I may perceine
to yelde hym haughty fame.

Unhappy tong, restraine such talke,
thinke (hart) with happy loy,

If thou wert lobde as thou dost loue,
would banish thy anoy:

And such disgracing lay apart,
suppose what seemely betw

f.b.

Pesistratus

The Historie of

Pelistrates beares, his comely couple
and grace doth now renew:
Whose feature passeth all the Gods,
and wit Appollo staines,
And whose especial planted gifts
abound in natures baynes:
Thou knowest his gesture doth excel,
his personage the doth passe
Eche wights, since taken life thou becomst,
or ere in Tarent was:
And further, needes thou must confesse
his manhode to be rare:
And is not this sufficient then,
sence all these vertues are
In him so plast, to moue thy minde,
and stirre in fancies fyre
Such zeale, as then to yeelde thy selfe
to him and his desire?
Thinke how accordant in this yeares
and fit in eche degree,
Hauz present welth in likely place,
the wight doth seeme to thee:
And wel perbssing thou mayst knowe
that riches is the least,
And vainest thing by due to bee
accounted for the best:
And whether wouldst thou be content,
to spend thy lingering dayes.

With

Pelistratus & Catanea.

With crooked wretch, whose onely wealth
and riches were his staves,

O? hie with seemely adorned wight.
whose youtful yeares possesse

Sufficient skill to yelde thee ease,
and purchase wealthes increase?

Whereon he stayde a while, and then
in feeding fanlie skill,

Why do I thus restrictly note
with such a speciall will,

The worst of his estate? and why,
suppose I of his want,

O? thinke of ought he lacketh, since
his vertues be not scant?

No, no respect reiected cleane,
I shall adioyne my hart

And zelous loue to Pelistrate,
for euer not to start:

And whether hatred do assaile
our state, or fortune frowne,

O? scoyne indoev? to suppress
our fame, and pul it downe,

O? want prouoke vs for to beg,
my hart shall still consent,

To fele what Pelistrate doth fele,
and neuer shall repent:

And though that fortune be our foe,
yet shal report display,

That

The Historie of

That faythful louers liuede in linke
and did in one decay.

And therewithal as though in deede,
their loues had bin supplyde,

If euer (quoth she) Pefuſtrate,
it otherwiſe be fryde,

Than that I euer ſhal perfourme
my ſworn ſayth to thee,

The furies feare my tender fleſh,
and poyſon be my ſee.

But when the pauſing time in traſt
had ſet in plainer ſight,

Hir ſorner ſits, ſhe pondring eke
the lacke of hir delight,

Bycauſe ſhe was vncertaine of
ſuch certaine loue agayne

From eſuſtrate, as ſhe did yelde,
oh how ſhe did complaine:

Accuſing both Dame natures arte,
who had employde hir eyes

To worke throw ſight ſuch todayne griefes,
as eke with careful cryes

So curſt the time, that euer breath
hir carkas had iclad,

And ſeaſon, wherby maintenance
of lingring life was had:

And then hir griefes increaſed ſo,
and ſhe was bound to payne,

That

Pesistratus & Catanea.

That hauing not sufficient strength
hir dolours to restraine,
Hir feeble limmes were foyt to faint,
and prostrate on the grounde
The Lady laye, till dumps were fled
and vital course rebound:
And then renewed, like passion doth
hir toudred wits compel,
For to recorde hir cause of cares,
which to hir case befel:
Wherin she further pondzing, did
peruse how folly lead
Hir tickle will wheron hir griefes
was erst the moze ybread?
And thinking thus, as one prouokt,
not able to withholde
Such earnest motion, for hir case
with tong she did unfold
Hys altered minde and changed dumps,
which foyt hir thus to say:
None but my selfe unhappy wretch
is cause of my decay?
For tis my folly that assures
my griefes, because in bayne
I hope, come therfore wished death,
and ryd me of my payne.
Alas if doubt should make betwaxe
the doubtful, wherfore then

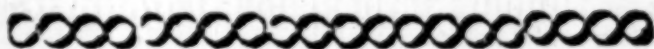
The History of

(O Catane) dost thou not doubt,
whose doubt is dispayre cleare?
O why dost thou ascertayne so
thy selfe to haue in holde
Pefiltrates hart, as he hath thine,
what maketh thee so bolde?
Thou knowest y^e youth doth minde affaires
that tendre to purchase fame,
And not such ioyes to thinke vpon,
thou thyse and thyse to blame.
Why then should not thy selfe the like
indeuor set aside,
Such folly cleane, as seems by right
thy rudenesse to deryde?
And this so sayde, she did declyne
to drouse couch, where as
A thousand sobes and sighes aryse,
and sundry thoughts do passe
from greued carkas to the skyes,
whom moning thus a while
I leaue, and to Pefiltratus
I shal resigne my stile.
That woful wight, who like wise bert,
(as erst was sayde) remaynes
In midst of his abundant griefes,
wherein he stil complayns.
And thus, the louers liue in lacke
of that they most desire,

And

Pelistratus & Catanea.

And mutual both vniuersall burne
in Cupids painful fire:
Whom for a space the season moues
my verse for to reſtaine,
Till ſeaſon ſuch as ſeaſon ſhall
inforce my pen againe
To leaue the ſtate of Kenedox
and doings to diſcry,
Wherto now ſeaſon craues I ſhould
my preſent pen apply.



That Kenedox was left as dead
by Peſiſtrate 'tis ſayde,
And likewiſe how by hunting Knights
he homeward was conuayde,
As alſo, how through this abuſe
his kinsmen mobde to yre,
Which came to viſite him, in rage
did backe againe retyre.
Which variance bred to ſuche a ſtrife
withina little time,
That ſpighting ſtill the heynouſneſſe
of Kenedoxus crime,
And thinking on the preſent wante
of Peſiſtrate bys ayde,
(Whoſe preſence was the cheefeſt ſtaffe
wheron their profit ſtande:)

The

The History of

The kinsmen sought to take a vantage
from Kenedox his right,
And sundry times by force of armes
assaulting it with might,
In field appointed at the last
the conquest they attainde,
And forced Kenedox to flye,
and slew them that remainde:
Whereon the wretched Kenedox
was fozt to leaue the soyle
For shame, that cowardly he fled,
and purchast had the soyle.
And therefore after long aduise
he minded to arriue,
In Italy, where as he heard
Pestrate was aliue:
Determining that if he could
but once approach to sight
Of Pestrate, to thrust him through,
and thence to take his flight.
And thus supposing, did prouide
to do as he deuise:
And after his arrival at
Tarentum, he surinysor,
At first to execute the same,
but in a further space,
When he had wither perbide
and thought vpon the case:

And

Pesistratus & Catanea.

And seene the danger that would ryle,
if rashely he were bent
To slay his brother in such wise,
as was his first intent.
He then determined to besoyne
himselfe, disfiguring cleane
Eche part he might, supposing so
as by a secreete meane,
To be as sernant entertaynd
of Pesistratus, whereby
He might in secret worke the feate
that he did meane to try.
His beard he cut, and shavde his head,
and used strange attyre,
And after eche thing fit preparde,
he boldly did aspye
To presence of Pesistratus,
who solitarie was,
With booke in hand, in garden set,
the tedious time to passe:
To whom the Kenedox with grace
and gesture wel disposde,
(His salutations friendly made)
his meaning thus disclosde:
Oh worthy Knight, thy rayled fame
hath sounded to mine eares,
The which hath movde me boldly thus,
deuoyde of doubted feares,

B.

To

The Historie of

To craue thy curtesy to yelde
such fauour vnto mee,
As thou: I might a happy man,
be intertaind of thee:
Whose seruice more I do esteeme
than princes equal state,
Or bondage better than the best
of fortunes flattering fate.
To whom (quoth Pefistratus) my friend,
a stranger thou dost seeme,
Of modest meekenesse, wile concept,
and gesture as I deeme:
And for as much as I can iudge
no otherwise of thee,
But that should wel maintaine my hope
I graunt and do agree
To thy request, and what thy power
can further for myne ease,
To doe the same with willing hart,
it shall my fanlle please.
This sayde Pefistratus, but least
he did suspect the guile
That lurked vnder flattering phrase
and vpyssons pleasant stile,
For while that he perswaded was
that Kenedox was slaine,
As with his eyes he also saw
his latest fatal payne:

Pesistratus & Catanea.

As likewise thought he that the man,
had bene a Troyan boine,
Exeause his beard and naked head
was in such maner shorne:
Wheron he made him priny straight
what things old appertayne
Unto himselfe, and wherunto
he should imploy his paine:
And then demaunding of his name,
that Antropos it bight
The seruant sayde, which Pesistrate
esteemed to be right.
And thus the wicked wretch hath brought
as erst he did require,
Unto a perfect purposde end
the ful of his desire:
Whose further pranks to be declared
hereafter shal insue,
And now Cataneas ceaselesse cares
my trauell shal renew:
Who stinteth not, but even as erst
he spent his lothed dayes,
So stil the countenaunce of his wealth
vpon Pesistrate dayes.
And lingring out the lazy time,
when Tytans glistring face
forsaken had to shew him selfe,
incroching conching place,

The Historic of

And Phoebe, did succcede in toome,
and Sopor claymde his right,
Catanea dielues in drouly dreame,
as though in cettayne sight
Pefiltrate sitting on a banke
with pleasant flowers deckt:
To whom a Serpent did approach,
of Hydrias feareful secte,
With hundred heads and thousand tonges,
which strake w ith such a force,
Pefiltratus, that it leaerde
his head from deadly corps:
Which so dismayde the drouly dame,
that hauing not such poure
As to perceiue it for a dreame,
she lay in traunce an houre,
Before that vitall course could be
reconered to his place,
O? sense had sente to vnderstande
the sondnesse of the case?
And when reuyued from hit sound
He was, for very feare
Eche limme did quake and tremble, such
hit gricuous dolors were:
Betwayling wofully hit fates,
that fortune was inclinde,
For to increate such double cares
to ouerpreffe hit minde:

Pesistratus & Catanea.

Ull Tiran had from East appeared,
and rayſde him ſelfe againe,
And then the Lady roſe from couch
and ceaſed to complayne.
And gan aduiſedly to thinke
that dreames were but abuſe,
Whereon to better eaſe approcht,
ſhe doth diſdaine to miſe
Thereon, but calles Peſiſtratus
to minde, and doth reue
How that the wight, as abieſt wretch
was clad in ſaunie hue,
Which doth pretend, that he did loſe,
and could not that attayne.
That ſhould intend his loyal faith
for to requite againe:
And thus ſuppoſing of the thing,
which as a pleaſant bait
Did ſeede his ſenſle and inſtroche
vpon his humoꝝ ſtraight
Ob ſeemely wight Peſiſtratus,
thyſe happy is the dame
(Quoth ſhe) whom thou ſo loveſt, as for
his ſake thou weareſt the ſame:
His loyes ſurmount vnto the beaueus,
his comforts pierce the ſkyes:
Or elſe I deeme the blinded wretch
dame natures gifts deſies:

The Historie of

Would to the Gods, it were my selfe
to whom thou dost employ
Thy hart, then happy night I thinke
that greater were my ioy
Than Alexanders hye renowne,
or Dame Mineruas fame.
Alas replyde she then, what more
vnlikelier than the same?
Vnlikely why? I know my state
and welth as great as his:
But doth Cupido wealth respect
or loke where riches is?
No, no, alas, what motion then
prouokes thee to such hope?
Thou knowst that lone at randon runs,
and Cupid shoots at scope,
O b truth (she sayde) and then, as though
a woman prest to dye,
Small hope I haue yet some, bycause
his gestures did discry
Of late his minde with paled face
and counte saunce sodainly chande,
When as I vnto his blond discourte
and all his humors ränge.
And thus his fanke with his selfe
disquestioned til at last,
Disparge not Catane (she sayde)
nor be no more agast:

But

Pelistratus & Catanea.

But since thou seest, thy louer is
in taunie colours drest,
Weare thou the like, that he may iudge
the cause of thine barest.
Wherto agreed, shee did proceede
to excuse his will:
Whom thus I leaue and shal resigne
to Pelistrate my quill:
Who stil consumes the tedious time
in teares and ceaselesse woes,
And dare not once (unhappy man)
his cause of cares disclose
To any wight, but to himselfe
in secret doth complayne,
Wherby the more he doth prouoke
his moeues vnto payne,
Til that in earded time, by chaunce
as he bewapling was,
His new come seruant Antropos,
by chamber doze did pas:
And hearing thus his maister mone,
did (entring there) e'pre
The feely man on rolled bed
as redy bent to dye:
To whom the captife Kenedox,
in'ending nought but gyle,
With bauty phrase and bidden glose
adoyned thus, is stile:

The Historie of

Alas my Lord, from what disease
proceedeth this thy care?
What is the vexing curted cause
that greued thus you are?
Hath losse of goods distempered,
or faithfull friends thy state?
Or hath impaisned fortune frownd
and spyghted thee of late?
Or hath the seemely sight of Dame
disquieted thy bed,
Wherby thy fixed fannle is
by blinded Cupid led?
Infozme thy seruant of thy cause
of cares, and if his powre
May do thee good, tis ready prest:
and if that fortune loure,
Forbeare the same with patience,
and season shall requite
In time agayne, when fortune leaues
to profer further spyte:
And if that loue assayle thy youth,
attende what I shal say,
And scozne not counsel, neyther let
advice be set away:
For oile it hath bene scene, the blynd
in safety sure to passe
The place wheras the seing man
hath salne and burst his face.

And

Pelistratus & Catanea.

And sometime may a wise man bee
adulled by a foole,
As doth a whetstone serue to sharpe,
but is no caruing toole.
If loue I say, so trouble thee,
my louing Lord beware,
Least nussling, thou thy selfe be trapt
in loues intangling snare:
And may, that if thou loue, thy loue
with equal loue be plapt,
For bye ascendyng gettes a fall,
and weaknesse is defall:
And since occasion forcerh thee
to saynte through chaunced fate,
Comfort thy heany hart, and eke
support thy drouly pate
With hope, and reason shal display
the prowe of hope in time,
When feareful fensle shal be fled,
though not in present pryne.
For how might euer sugrie lappe
be knowne, if bitter tast
Had nere bene felt, or pleasant baiste
were nere addicte to wast?
How wealth, if neuer woes were with?
how health if neuer harme?
O? what man can descerne the colde
whych neuer knew the warme?

The History of

Giue therefore place to paine, and that
shall pleasure bring at last,
As diuers saouours teach, the true
experience of a taste:
And hope as I do hope, which is,
to see the happy day,
That thou shalt full enioye thy wishe,
thy sorrowes woyme away:
And leaue thy couch, and seeke the means
cleane to auoyde thy care,
For lying thus, thou dost increase
thy dolorous misere.
And worthy Peritratus, marke
and ponder wel my words:
A man with payne may beate the bush,
and other catch the birds.
So mayst thou thus increase thy griefs,
decreasing stil thy strength
And lustie force, when other men
shall get thy game at length.
Were this the way to winne thy wyl?
were this the wisest aile
That thou mayst do, so to abuse
thy wittes by foolish fall?
No. no. thy wealth wil wear away,
thy force wil faine and fayle,
Thy sorrowes wil augment defame,
and nothing thee anaple:

Pesistratus & Catanea.

Ryse therefore vp, with courage arms
and fortify thy case,

Polish thy parts with healthful hope,
anoyde this lothsome place,

And eyther seeke such means thy selfe,
as may exyle thy grieffe,

Or else let seruant vse his paine
to purchase thy reliefe,

Who wal, by death and life (I vow)
for thy desired ease,

Both benter life, and suffer death,
and present life displease.

That all, Pesistrate noted wel,
and pondyed in his harte

In answer, viewing in his deed
what were his wisest part:

And in coniecturing, thought at first
to holde his secret deepe,

Considering that the Fox doth wick
when oft he saynes to sleepe:

But afterward respecting much,
the earnestnesse did seeme

To be in talke of Antropos,
bycause he could not deeme

No otherwise than meere good wyl
to moue his zelous phrased,

And marking that his counsel was
as needeful to his wayes,

Without

The History of

Without suspect, alas: the Knight
his secrets did disclose
In ende to Antropos, and thus
his woful speech arose:
What sodayne tickle channce hath charmd
thy footsteppes to the place,
To see thy friend tormented thus,
and be it before thy face:
Whom euery creature doth disdaine,
and comfort doth refuse,
And euery tormente, with his payne
and penurie doth vse?
'Tis neither want of worldly wealth,
nor lacke of earthly store,
Nor losse of friends nor frowning face
of fortunes fickle lore,
That makes me spende my doleful dayes
in such excelsse of teares,
But Antropos, alas, alas,
it is thy trembling feare,
The doubtfull hope, the cold conceits,
the ceaselesse burning boyles
Of louers fits, that I sustayne,
and thus my stomacke toyles,
And stil alas I strayne, as much
as in my powre doth lye,
Yet aye, the more I strive, the more
I feele my force to dye,

And

Pessistratus & Catanea.

And thus I lye in deepe dyspayre,
and haue no cause to ioy,
But drinke my death, and seeke of ayre,
and breede mine owne anoy,
Wheron I can not thinke my payne
his pleasure will induce,
Because no pleasure can depend
vppon mine owne abuse.
I gaine, my hope is so defast,
and I my selfe attaine
Vnto such little cause of hope,
that hope is most my paine.
And though al this I knowe, yet grieve
so much doth me suppress,
That I not able am to seeke
oz worke for my redresse,
Thus seest thou Antropos, so much
vnhappy is my state,
That thy aduise is frustrate all,
and counsell come to late.
Wherefore as cause doth moue my eyes,
so forst I do complayne,
And haue no cause to set me free
oz these my griefes restrayne
Yet for as much as I perceiue
what wisdom is in thee,
And how thou tenderly betwixt
my case, and fauorist mee,

The Historie of

(O Antropos) I will declare
to thee my secretes all,
And how by due desert, I haue
attaind to this my sal.
In Appollonia, Grecian Soyle,
a towne of raised fame
I boyme a worthy father had,
Aganetos his name,
Who tending to his louing sonnes
as much as father might,
Wherof I one, an other was,
who Kenedoxus hight:
And when that crooked age encrocht
vpon our auncient Sire,
The father did with trickling teares
of vs his sonnes require,
Like valiants to withstand the rage
of Tetimedian pride,
(Who were our foes) as he before
their bantle hartes had tryde,
Disposing vnto Kenedox
his landes, as due by right
They were: and vnto me, what so
of foes we got by fight:
And flinting to the aged Sire
from seat to earth declynde,
And taking death, vnto the heauens
his spirits he resinde.

Whom

Pesistratus & Catanea .

Whom in one time we layde in earth,
and then did both consente,
To worke for foers despight, wherto
our mutual wils were bent:
And in a space as we requirde,
we met our foers in face:
And in the skirmish overcame
their pride in pointed place,
And slew eche man, save those which fled,
wherby when so the loyle
They purchasde had, by right I claymde
their landes, in forsayde loyle
Containd, bycause by fathers will
they were dispoide to mee.
But to this same, my brother would
in no wise once agree,
Wherat our kinsmen were displeasde
with Kenedox, and sayde,
That since it was my right, the same
Should be to me connayd:
But he as much displeasde agayne,
and fretting in his yre,
Departed thence in wrath, bycause
he myst of his desire:
Whom biewing I, so fiercely set,
supposing to perswade,
Did follow fast, but when I sene
of him, with deadly blade

The Historie of

He meeting, thought me to haue slaine
in that his basty mode,
Whose rigor viewed, with Rapier drawne
in hande, I him withstode:
And mobde by this occasion iust
to anger, caitife vile
(Quod I) wouldst thou in brothers bloude
so cowardly desi'e
Thy filthy filis? an art thou ment
to seeke thy friends decay?
If so, in a conuenient place
and on appointed day
Agree to get reuenge, and seeke
thy quarel to renue,
And I this blade in traytorous blood
of i'ine Mal there imbue:
To w. . . agreede, be bowed by Saints
to meet: and time appoacht,
Wherein eche for his brothers corps
with blondy blade incrocht,
In further fight I sluz the knight,
wheron in hast I fled,
And towards these Italian parts,
through seas in ship was led.
And when aribe I was, such fate
allotted to my pay,
That wandring by any detour, not known,
and knowing not the way,

By

Pesistratus & Catanea.

By chance I met an ancient sire,
with countenance verpe graue,
And sobre gesture, unto whom
intelligence I gaue
Of my affaires, and whilst that such
discourse of talke did passe,
In forest by, Pecipater
with other hunting was:
A monstrous Lion, without so long
the coursers chased had,
That flinging Lion forest left,
came towards vs as mad,
With whom incountring I bestowed
such blowes, as at the last,
His rage abated, him I slue,
and so the daunger past.
And by this meanes acquainted grew
with chasers Knightly rout,
But chiefly with Pecipater,
with whom, as it fel out,
I did repaire to present place,
which place hath wrought my paine,
And feedes my fanle, as thou seest,
with poisonous pleasant baine:
For Pecipater worthy man
a sister hath, who hight;
Catanea, a Phenix rare,
a peerelesse dame by right,
h.

Whose

The Historie of

Whose seldome beauty hath dismayd
so much my wandring wits,
That will I will I, forst I am
to suffer these my fits,
Accursing the unhappy time,
that ere my footstepps trode
Italian ground, or that my life
so long hath here abode:
As eke the time that ere I blest
that glittering face of hers,
Whose beauties blaze, I dare avow
doth dimme the twinkling starres.
Thun haue I tolde thee (Antropos)
the cause of my anoy,
Or present state, and bearing griefs,
and overpassed ioy:
Which at these paines, I do confesse,
of this the present time,
I do deserve, and thousands more
for former forsayd crime:
And thee and none else haue I made
so privie to the same,
My secrets wherefore keepe thou close,
and peld me no more blame.
And so be silent to speake, and teares
did trickles downe the face
Of silly man, and quaking feare
dissempred eury place

Pelistratus & Catanea.

So much that wretched might be stode
in such amazed muse,
As though his sprites were fully bent
his body to refuse.
Whom Antropos beholding, thus
did craftely reply,
With tong dessembling vnder which
the mischeefe al did lie:
My Lorde, alas, I much lament
to see thy doleful dayes
In irksome cares so vainly spent,
whilst hauty fame and praise (Mowen,
Might be thy gain, through knight hood
refuse this lothsome trade
Of lazy life, in singring woes,
and let thy sorowes bade.
For since it is but loue, that moues
thy stomache to such paine,
No doubt we shal preuent the harmes,
and wel enough restraine
The further mischeefe that would grow
thynght want of wise forcast,
By trauel such as shal intend
to worke thy welth at last:
Thou knowest that nothing is so darke,
but labour doth espie,
And nought so stout, but trauel may
suppresse, if it wil trie:

h ij.

And

The Historie of

And wherefore then wilt thou dispayre?
O? why dost droulie doubt
So drowne thy senses, that thou thus
forsakst the courtly rout,
And yeelost thy carkasse to thy couch,
as one who seekest to craue
His lazie ease, o? to be layd
in his desired graue?
Is this the way to moue the mindes
of Ladies to surmise
Vpon thy manhood, o? the meanes
to make thy fixed eyes
Of lowly stomacks to respect
thy person? o? the way
To yeeld thee same through due deserts,
o? purchase louers pray?
No no, thou knowest: then shame to vse
such meanes as do allure
Thy present hindrance in such things
as faine thou wouldest procure.
And now forsake thy droulie bed,
and vse such fit attire,
As seemeth requisite and apt
for leuing, thy desire:
For Catane in iauens hue
is clad of late and why?
Maid thou not iudge it doth as well
like loue of hers discry

Pesistratus & Catanea.

As of thine owne? renew thy hart
and let not courage quaille,
Hope wel and haue wel, so they say,
nought haue, if nought assayle:
And write thy minde with plaintife pen
vnto thy Ladies grace,
Beseeching comfort for thy cares,
and fauor for thy case:
And I thy secret seruant, shal
in secret al conuay
Vnto hir hande, this is the best,
this is the wisest way.
For otherwise thou ceaslesse maist
continue in thy griefe,
And stil bewaile, and yet be boyde
of comfort or reliefe.
Thou wisely sayst (quod Pesistrate)
and I with willing hart,
To follow this thy good aduise
wil prosecute my part:
Though yet, alas, I may perceiue
that al is but in vaine,
By cause presumption plainly shewes
presumption of disdain?
As also if I should faile,
what mischere would succede,
And what rebuke vnto my Name
would follow for my deed?

The Historie of

Pettrype I wil, for sure I am
my Lady wil not proue,
Though hers surpassed my good wil
or stand in better loue.
And therewithall the trembling wight,
on crouching knees declinde,
With lifted handis vnto the skies
his prayers thus resinde.
O mighty loue, with beauenly ghost
my spirits now indue,
Gie vttering gift, that sugred pen
may so my griefes renue,
As that my faithfull meanings may
requited be againe
With some remeyle of loyal loue:
and so he stint to straine
Hys further speeche: and then with pen
pouided in his hand,
Thus did the wretch describe his case
subdude to beauties band.

Pesistratus letter to his Ladie.

*A*rr'oful wight whose curelesse cares
compel him to complaine,
Whose fansie fixed fast, is fed
vpon Cupidos baine,

Whose

Pelistratus & Catanea.

Whose do:btfull dumps of deepe dispaire,
haue dround in dul any
His heauy hart, and can attaine
to no desired ioy,
Hath boldly made assault, to saue
(if fortune do conser,
And fauor fr my our tender brest
in gentle wise be: be: s)
The life which erst depend on death,
and panted in the paines
Of latest fits, and now through hope
some sappie sense sustayns.
If faithfull Troylus had a cause
wish teares for to betwayle
His fates, when first Cupidos cares
his stomacke did assaile,
Or Tantalus the wresched wight
his dolours to disclose,
Or else the furies to declare
their pangs they may suppose
I Pelistratus motion haue
to vtter forth my smart,
Whose grifes excede eche other paine
that euer pincht the hart:
And (oh Catanea) all these things
I suffer for thy sake,
Whose fauour doubting I should finde,
deth cause eche limme to quake:

The Historie of

Let therefore pitie yelde his power
from tender louing brest,
In speedy hast to cure my cares,
and yelde thy lower rest.
Which if thy grace do graunt to giue,
my stomacke shal intend,
A faithful lower for to liue
til life doth take his ende:
But if I faile of that I would,
then thrise accursed, I
Haue no refuge, but glad to yelde
my lothed limmes to dye.
And thus, my simple sute disclosde,
and pity cravde, I leaue
our grace, and to the hiest heauens
your person I bequeane.

~~~~~  
**T**his was the summe of the complaint,  
which with his proper list,  
That worthy Pefistratus wrote,  
who could not cares resist:  
But after this his finisht worke,  
his woes renewed againe,  
And he (as ere, so likewise now)  
down tumble in his paine,  
Supposing what defame would fall:  
if that his case not mounde,

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

His earnest sute, and such requests  
of Ladies grace were scornde.  
And therupon, in deepe dispaire  
the wretch would thus haue rente  
The paper streight, wherin but earst  
his trauel he had spent,  
Had it not bin for Antropos,  
whose guileful words assurde,  
That hope renewd, to Pesistrate  
his fansie he procurde  
To graunt againe in hope of grace  
the same to be conuayde  
By Antropos, as was deuilde:  
wheron he then thus sayde:  
I midste dispayre a little hope  
informing fantasies feares  
Of happy fauour, I haue betwixt  
the paper with my teares,  
And deckt it in the careful robes  
of louers curled case,  
Sustaynde by sighs, and fed by sobbes,  
I liue through hope of grace.  
Thus say, the woful wight hath sayde,  
and let not to declare,  
How still I lye, and yet I liue,  
and what my dolours are.  
And so he ceast to speake, and gulfes  
of grieuoly gripes arose,

## The Historie of

That feeble man, was saynting, for  
his senses strength to lose,

Till time againe resigned had  
due sappe to vital vains:

Wherin Pefiltrate left, amidst  
his cares and pinching paines,

His servant Antropos argues  
to long desired place,

Where Catane remaynd, and spyres  
his happy wished face:

To whom approched, greeting well,  
the servant did prepare,

With filed tongue, to Lady thus  
his message to declare:

The most plossed woful wretch  
who Pefiltratus bight,

Hath wylde my travel to present  
these letters to your sight,

Beleeching humbly, that your grace  
with pity would respect

His cur'd case, the which with cares  
is wofully bedeckt:

And he amaze, as though of wittes  
distraight with fancies filld,

So frounss in midst of Cupides flames  
which bath t is hart distillde,

Like sanoxte sappe of fruitfull herbe  
whych melts in vessel where

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

The fuming fire doth force the same  
a watric substance beare,  
That neyther health, ne wealth, ne rest,  
the seelye soule sustaynes,  
But only freezeth in his fears,  
and burneth in his pains.  
Which sayd, the courteous Lady did  
to Antropos reple,  
That letters red, to morrow nexte,  
his answere should discry  
His meanings, wishing Pesistrate  
no otherwyse to deeme,  
But that his friendship should incline  
his proffers to esteeme:  
For which a thousand thanks returnd,  
the servant doth retire,  
And telles his Maister, al fell out  
according to desire:  
And how the dame with willing hart  
receyved the letters sent,  
And that with profferd service she  
was very well content,  
With promise made, that answere should  
to morrow make requise  
Of his good wil, as should intende  
to mone him to delight:  
Which Pesistratus hearing, was  
the joyfullst man aliue,

## The Historie of

So motiond to such sodaine ioyes,  
as penne can not descriue  
The liuely fancies that he felte,  
noz yet the hart suppose  
His happie state, noz his conceits  
no trouling tong disclose:  
But as a mortal, cleane remeinde  
from earthly irksome cares  
To heauenly ioyes, so Pefistrate  
(thysie happy man) he fares.  
Wherfore he blis the fruitfull wombe  
from whence he did proceed,  
And eke the pappes that gaue him sucke,  
and sustenance that did feede  
His nourisht limmes, and eke the day  
wheron he toke his flight  
From natie soyle, Dame Nature eke  
who yelded him his sight,  
With all the furtherers of life:  
but most he blis the Dame,  
Who was the cause, that happie he  
was moode to blisse the same:  
And then: you furies al (quoth hee)  
receiue your due agayne,  
I haue no cause to weyle with you,  
I scorne your drouisic payne.  
You pleasant Nymphes, come you and ayde  
the blest to paynt his ioyes,

And

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

And let the cursed captifs playne,  
bewayling their anoyes.  
But pausing then a while: when time  
had somewhat made delay  
Of sodaine such conceyued loyes,  
he then began to say:  
O cursed captife, what abuse  
hath blinded wandring wittes?  
What cause hath inobde thee so to vse  
such vnaduised fits?  
Hast thou receiue of Ladies grace  
in wylting hie good wil,  
So blasoe as nothing can disproue  
the same? No, no: distil  
Then from the watrish eyes thy teares,  
let sighes go flye apase,  
To maintaine that which thou hast worst,  
according to thy case:  
And rather peeke thee to thy couche,  
as erste, for to brwayne:  
For likelyhoodes vncertayne bee,  
and fickle hope will fayle:  
And those thy letters so receiue,  
the Lady doth retayne,  
To shew thy fondnesse for a scoffe,  
for sure shee doth disdain  
Thy simple seruice, and doth scoone  
thy bolde presumptuous sute,

And

## The History of

And means to yelde for thy defame  
the same to common brute:  
Wherby the pryde should be espyde  
and lewdnesse should be blornde  
Througħ euery care, that thy abuse  
of eche man might be knowne.  
And dost thou then conceine a cause  
as though of luckie happe,  
When so thy fondnesse is displayde  
in euery tauntes lappe?  
O blinded fool, dispatch thy life  
more rather, with thy blade,  
And let in brest with percing knifz  
thy latest wound be made,  
And therewythall to that intente  
be ready was to drawe  
For his dispatch: but pondring then  
agayne when well he sawe  
His vaine perle, renoking sense  
from errors further that,  
Do wretch (quoth he) and wouldst thou so  
obtrayne thy proper fall?  
Dost thou not know the Lady is  
of gentle curteous kinde,  
Of wise behauiour, and discrete,  
and of a lowly minde?  
And dost thou then suppose that she  
would make thee such defame?

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

No, no, in iudging so thou art  
vnhappy much to blame.  
And much vnworthy to receiue  
the thing thou dost require,  
Since to my Ladie such abuse  
thy stomacke doth aspire:  
Is not enough for riddance of  
thy tedious irksome greefe,  
If Ladies mouth, that Ladies grace  
shall come be thy releefe?  
And canst thou not a season stay  
to take thy wished ioye,  
When thou hast spent long tract of time  
in case of much annoy?  
Let reason rule thy sense for shame,  
and brydle wandring wil,  
And shun such foolish forcing cause  
as doth prouoke thyne ill.  
Thus sayde Pesistratus, and then  
at somewhat better ease,  
His happe bequeathed vnto hope,  
his dolours do appease:  
And fed by hope and yet in doubt  
and sundry sodaine feares,  
In wandring motions voyde of stay  
the lingering time he weares:  
Whom I resigne in such his fits  
and shall attende to paine,

## The History of

As simple vttrance can declare,  
the ioyes that did attaine  
The beautiful Catanea,  
who after message down  
Of Antropos, to secret place  
approching, (Dolors. won)  
Did so record hir happy haps,  
that pen may not expresse  
The force of those hir ioyful fits,  
which did hir heart addresse  
To happy state, as woman erst  
to euery dolor yoke,  
And now with peerelesse ioyes possesse,  
to gladfull cheere promote,  
Whose luckie fates so frounsed had  
hir senses in delight,  
That trickle teares, for happy ioye,  
distilld: and yet no sight  
She had of secrets that should bee  
in letters there repose,  
But kist the same a thousand times  
before it was disclosur:  
And then with daintie finger, she  
attempted to reneale  
The same, but first with sugry lips  
she kist again the scale,  
And then with galling greedy sight  
the letters did peruse

## Pelistratus & Catanea.

A hundred times, before she could  
agree for to refuse  
The same, her comforts so arose  
through forsayd letters sent,  
That she not able was, from them  
her fantasie to relent.  
For season long, till senses were  
so much therewith itost,  
The humour fed his fill, the dame  
for ioy began to boist  
(With happy wights) her happy state,  
whose comforts did excell  
(As she supposed) the life, whereunto  
no comfort did rebel.  
Whereon the Lady lost her ioyes  
surpassing to compare,  
The Phoenixgan her happy fates  
and ease for to declare.  
With haughty voice, and thus she sayde:  
oh fortunatist day  
That euer past in earthly globe,  
oh sweetest purchas't pray  
That euer louer hath attained:  
whose hap exceeds my ioyes?  
Whose riddance is more better made  
than mine from my annoyes?  
Who liues in happier plight than I?  
who spends the lucky tide,

## The Hiltorie of

In better blisse? whose case is more  
than mine by cares decide?  
Whom sauiors fortune more than me?  
whom hath she more aduanc't?  
Whose loyal loue is more than mine  
by loyal loue inhaun't?  
Whose louers seemelynesse doth passe  
my comely louing Knights?  
No, no, none canse like me to ioye,  
none liues in more delights.  
Most happy therfore be the tide  
that ere I saw the face  
Of Pefiltrate that peerlesse wight,  
and bidde his possyly grace?  
And blessed be his gentle hart,  
whose loyal loue hath brought  
Vnto my state more ease, than all  
the Gods could haue ywrought.  
Thus sayde the dame, and pausing then  
again, unhappy wretch  
Quod she, what meanest thou (by this)  
thy slender throte to stretch  
In such disguised sort? what toys  
assaulted haue thy bed?  
That want of reason at thys whyle  
thy wandring wits hath led?  
What though Pefistratus hath made  
so fayned a complaynt?

## Pelistratus & Catanea.

Is this sufficient to allure  
that fauour should attaint.  
Thy stomacke straight? oh Cataneo  
dost thou not know the guile  
Of mens abuse? and dost thou not  
perceiue this luttie wile:  
And art thou yet to learne their trades?  
is practise out of vse?  
O; dost thou deeme, that now discaine  
doth scorne the like abuse?  
No, no, their faulds deceits abound,  
they; snares be daily layde,  
And al their trauell and their laches  
to trapping trade conuaid.  
And yet, when pcelogd loue is leut  
vnto their faulds request,  
They seeme to skorne, this is their vse,  
to make therof a test,  
And thus by nature eery addit,  
minde nought but, wo mens shame,  
And midst the rest of skaffing routs  
they most deride the same.  
For offred they do much detest,  
and coyed grace they craue,  
Which when by long complaints and lutes  
in ead they purchast haue,  
They do relect, as not content  
therwith, or else disdaine

## The Historie of

To ble their loue so stately bent  
as nature would maintaine.  
And though by chaunce they now and then  
do make a matchey mate  
Unto themselves, of Lady such  
as doth adorne their state,  
When tract of time hath made delay  
of their inflamed fits,  
Then Tigris like, they do surmise  
and settle spitefull wits,  
To make a thrall'd slave of him  
whom erst they did retaine  
As for their mate, this is their guile  
to worke their lovers paine:  
And thus they ryther alwayes sayne  
to purpose our reproch,  
By scoffed folly: or disdain  
the loue they did inchoke:  
Or else relect the dame, which erst  
he lude, through haucie pride,  
As who should say, so trim a man  
was he, as not denide:  
Or else attained to their wish,  
they make their Ladies thral  
Unto their sickle toils: and thus  
our folly frames our fall.  
Should therfore I, whose haucie fate  
doth stand at certaine ease,

## Pefistratus & Catanea.

So much my noble birth abase,  
and present welth displease,  
And purchase shame and leese renowne,  
as so to put in yoke  
To needy slaue, my pressed necke,  
whose blage may prouoke  
My noble hart to seruile state,  
and presse my honoz downe,  
Wherby my duties al decay,  
and leessing my renowne,  
I should be scoffe to euery tong  
and as a common blame  
To euery taunter? no, I scorue  
the cause of such defame:  
And rather than I would agree  
to such abused thought,  
My fatal webbe of sisters three  
againne shal be brwrought.  
Thus earnest was the Lady then  
against hir former minde,  
Yet pausing now a while, the dame  
was contrary declinde:  
And thinking how she rashly bow'd  
against hir former will,  
Which likewise was with sollemn othe  
confirmd, the teares did trill  
from trickling eyes, as drops of dew  
descending to the ground,

## The Historie of

And the dismaid, as though addrest  
to deadly dampish wound.

From heavy hart with doleful chere  
renemofor to complaine,

And to his former rash conceits  
replied thus againe:

O faithlesse wench, dost thou deserue  
a loyal louters hart

For to iniure? who wandering thus  
art blowne to euery parte.

O; deemst thou it as possible,  
such curtiennesse to hide

In Penitrate, whose outward Wape  
declares his curteous kinde?

O; dost thou thinke that eche is bent  
to worke his louters thrall,

Because that some men take delight  
to purchase others fall?

No, no, thy leudnesse is decribde,  
thou art cursed thou art moode

To speake in mens behalfe, since lo  
of man thou art beloude,

And not so gratelesse to requite  
thy loue with such disdain,

Which doth pretend, that womankind  
is rather bent to faile?

Shame such abuse, and lette once  
thy wits at certaintie,

And

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

And now provide to aunswere that  
Pesistratus request,  
With such a constant louing hart  
as he doth seeme to beare,  
Who spendes the tedious time through hope  
of grace in painful feare.  
And leauing then, with further speech  
the time for to delay,  
She gan devise such meeke conceit  
as playnly myght conuay  
Hir louing hart to Pesistrate,  
whereon with happy quill  
In happy time, the Lady thus  
old wryte hir constant wil.

## The letter of Catanea

to hir Louer.

**T**Hy louing letters Pesistrate,  
thou seemely wight attainde  
Vnto my sight, thy Lady hath  
with happy hand restrainde:  
And wishing to thy person wealth  
and cause of ceaselesse ioyes,  
Hir heauy hart hath much bewailde  
thy former long annoyes,  
At present time, with yelded loue  
requising gentle grace,

## The Historie of

of chine abundant, with as much  
as may supply thy case.

And though thy pangs surpass the paine  
that lurke in Plutos Lake,  
Thou neuer sufferedst halfe like griefes  
or passions for my sake.

As I for thy misdoubted loue  
haue suffered deadly smart,  
Whose least vexation able was  
to teare the strongest hart.

And though thy loue as loyall bee,  
as Troylus faith in Troy,  
Or else as earnest as it raines  
in brest of blynded boy,

I dare auow my fixed hart  
in equall due to flame,

Which fixed fast vnto my faith,  
thou only reapest the same,

And enely shalt whilst lingring life  
doth vs all course maintaine,

Or else damnation be my due,  
and Plutos forge my gaine.

Thus to thy wish I do aspire,  
and graunt thy whole request,

And to performe eche cravde desire  
of chine, mine hart is prest

And therefore briefly to concdine  
as I haue briefly wrote,

That

## Petrarchus & Catanea.

That neither tract of time, nor paine,  
shall make thee once forgotte,  
But aye for to be shrinde in brest,  
and borne in constant minde,  
Whilst carkeas left, vnto the skies  
my spirits be resynd:  
And for bycause I long to view  
thy comelie curteous face,  
I haue deuise, that voide of eche  
suspect, in secret place  
Thou mightest repaire, where mutuell hartes  
moy say their happie owne:  
The time appointed, and the place  
is to thy seruant showane.

Thy only owne, whilst life doth last,  
til breath be gone, til sense be past.

This when the Lady finish't had,  
reuolde in mazed muse;  
Why rather did I not (quoth she)  
at first seeme to refuse  
hys proffered service, and to say  
to make the matter strange,  
Wherby I might prouoke his love  
more hotter for to range:  
Than thus to lette thy selfe, so bound  
vnto the wight againe,

A. b.

Declaring

## The Historie of

Declaring for his wished loue  
my former forcing paine?  
Wherto the pausing did reply,  
that faithfull hart should frame  
Eche thing so faithfull, as it should  
deserue no loy of blame.  
And so content, with softened waxe  
the letters she doth scale,  
And kissed them: to secrete brest  
of hers, she doth repose  
The same, whilst seruant were approcht  
at due appointed tyde,  
Who present come to that intent,  
and of the Lady spyde,  
Receyved the letters, with aduise  
of forsayde time and place,  
Wherreas both met, the louers might  
determine full, the case:  
And with a thousand greetings sent  
vnto the worthy wight,  
The seruant homewards did repayre  
apace, and meets the Knight,  
To whom he yeldes the paper sent,  
as also doth discty,  
The pointed place and present tie  
wherfo he should apply:  
His iorney made, but oh the loyes  
the happy man concribde.

When

## Pelistratus & Catanea .

When these thus luckie newes he had  
and letters were bequeadde,  
I deeme the Gods had no such cause  
or motions to be glad,  
As in that ten times blessed time  
the ioyful man he had.  
It were therefore but frustrate, that  
I further should pretende  
His happy haps for to discribe,  
or fancies to extende,  
Since beauenly powers can scarce comprise,  
I deeme, the wondrous ioyes,  
That fed his fantasie with delights  
of sundry plea'sant toyes,  
Whererein he spent the altered time,  
till Titan had resinde  
hymselfe to west, and left the clokes  
of pitchy clouds behind,  
And then againe recourled was,  
and had his streames displayde  
In open East, on fertile earth,  
and gladful light conuayde.  
Wherin the Louers loselome couch  
forsaken, do prepare  
To meete in happy pointed place,  
and gorgeously they are  
In silken robes of costly price  
arrayde and redy prest,

## The Historie of

As louers such as for the nonce  
their seemely sightes addrest,  
And after iourney, are aryde  
to forsayde ioyful place,  
Whereas the Knight his Lady met,  
doth kisse and then embrace.  
Whom likewise she a hundred times  
rekist and kist againe,  
And he requited euery one  
by one, yet toke no paine.  
That who had seene the seemely sight  
of louers there so blazde  
With comely corps and princely port,  
he wondring would (amazde)  
haue musde, that nature could haue made  
such artificiall show,  
That such imps of heauenly betwe  
from earthly globe should grow.  
And thus the louers ruld the time  
to their desired ioye,  
And made discourse of al their hap,  
and blis, that banisht ioye,  
They had attaynde to happy wish:  
til seasons tickle trade  
Approche, of force (against their wills)  
departure must be made.  
Wherein, in it parting kysse they pass,  
appointing time reuocde,

When

## Pelistratus & Catanea.

When there in present place againe  
eche other might be blewde:  
And at departure, fixed fast  
their eyes for to beholde  
Eche others presence withly marke,  
so vtrance did vnfolde  
Of louely vse, eche louing hart  
as long as time would lette,  
Vppon eche others comely corps  
their eyesights to bee sette.  
And thus departed, both yclad  
in like adorned heimes,  
They spend the time at wished ease,  
as stil the time renewes,  
And often thus they blew to meete,  
and long their ioyes retainde,  
Til at the last, oh cursed case,  
their customes were restraynde  
By villayne seruant Antropos,  
whose long disguised guyle  
hath now at last attempted, wrought  
the louers ioyes exile.  
Come come, Aleo therefore, thou  
vnhappy captyfe, teache  
My drouisic verse, the diuelishe wyles  
of this vnhappy wretch,  
Whose rankrous hart deuising long  
to worke Pelistrats payne,

## The History of

Had now a better convenient time  
to charme his popishous baine.

For when the villaine had supposed  
what suare he might inuent,

Thus bring ~~up~~ to the chaine  
of all their whole intente.

And pondering what displeasure might  
to Peristrate arise,

If that his secrett loue were knowne,  
the miser did deuise

To disclose to vncle of  
Catanea the same,

With further forged tale, that might  
ingender greater blame.

Wheron approacht to Phetrarus  
his vncle, so he blight,

With tale prepared for the nonce,  
thus vttered he his spight:

For as I haue heard in some  
of your friends, that haue beene

Sir Phetrarus, the earnest zeale  
I beare to thy estate,

And eke the length of long successe  
I wish vnto thy fate,

That haue made me boldely to presume,  
my trauell to addresse,

As for a warning vnto thee,  
least treason should be suppress

225 The

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

Thy quiet wealth; and vnderstand,  
that Pesistrate is bent,  
Conspired with Catanea,  
who yielded hath consent,  
Ere it be long to seeke thy death  
and reue thy vital life,  
Cyber by pappered popson, or  
by secret bloudy knyfe.  
For as by chance I musling late  
alone in secrete place,  
I herde these two, presuming thus  
vpon the traytrous case,  
And Pesistratus (holding in  
his armes Catanea) say,  
I would not haue this toy my loue  
no whit at al, dismay.  
Thy doubtful heap, for nought I care  
for Phetratus consent,  
But haue deuised wel enough,  
the mischiefs to prevent:  
That he may worke, to let our loue:  
from hence not far remayne,  
A Grecian seely man, who liues  
in ceaselesse extreme payns  
Through sickness, whiche hath long suppress  
his wished health, and he  
Of late for hye of certayne summe,  
did willingly agree  
for

## The History of

For to begin in p<sup>re</sup>sented cup  
to Phetratus, whereby  
Both he himselfe and Phetratus,  
through poyson dronke should dye:  
The seely man to gaine of golde  
so vehemently desires,  
To leaue vnto his simple sonne,  
and gladly he aspires  
To dye, bycause his paines extreme  
so bert the werled wight,  
That boye of health he can attaine  
to rest ne day ne night.  
And by this meanes, our greatest foe  
shal sone dispatched be,  
And we attayne to happy day  
the which we long to see.  
This sayde Pestrat, and I heard  
Catanea replie,  
That it was possibely thought,  
aduising him to try  
The subtil feate in p<sup>re</sup>sent space,  
and not for to delay  
But do it in as speedy hast  
as possible he may.  
This with mine eares I heard at knight,  
and will auow the same  
Upon my body to the death  
vnto the traitors Name:

And

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

And that you may for certaine know  
my former talke as true,  
I heard the Louers point the place  
and time for to reue  
Their traytrous will: vnto which place  
if you with armed rout  
Proceede, there may you cleane dissolue  
the causes of your dout.  
And apprehend the traytors both  
at ease, deuoyde of feare,  
Where you should do but to desert  
if that with poynt of spere  
You pearsed Pesistratus sides.  
Thus had the caytife told  
his forged tale, and now a space  
doth tatling tong with-hold.  
To heare what Phetratus would say,  
whose answer thus was made:  
Oh grisly griping gulfs of griefe,  
that stomacke do invade:  
As exile slave Pesistratus  
so cowardly dispoide  
To worke my death, befoze he dare  
to haue his grutch disclosde?  
And is Catanea so bente  
to seeke his vnckles spoyle,  
Whose long regarde hath had respect  
to his suspected foile?

It,

And

## The History of

For to begin in p<sup>re</sup>ced cup  
to Phetratus, whereby  
Both he him selfe and Phetratus,  
through poyson dronke should dye:  
The seely man to gaine of golde  
so vehemently desires,  
To leaue vnto his simple sonne,  
and gladly he aspires  
To dye, bycause his paines extreme  
so beate the werled wight,  
That boye of health he can attaine  
to rest ne day ne night.  
And by this meanes, our greatest foe  
shal sone dispatched be,  
And we attayne to happy day  
the which we long to see.  
This sayde Pelistrate, and I heard  
Catanea replie,  
That it was possibly thought,  
aduising him to try  
The subtil feate in present space,  
and not for to delay  
But do it in as speedy hast  
as possible he may.  
This with mine eares I heard our knight,  
and wil auow the same  
Upon my body to the death  
vnto the traitors name:

And

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

And that you may for certaine know  
my former talke as true,  
I heard the Louers point the place  
and time for to reue  
Their traytrous will: vnto which place  
if you with armed rout  
Proceede, there may you cleane dissolue  
the causes of your dout.  
And apprehend the traytors both  
at ease, deuoyde of feare,  
Where you should do but to desert  
if that with poynt of spere  
You pearsed Pesistratus sides.  
Thus had the caytife told  
his forged tale, and now a space  
doth tatling tong with-hold,  
To beare what Phetratus would say,  
whose answer thus was made:  
Oh grisly griping gulfes of griefe,  
that stomacke do invade:  
Is exile slaue Pesistratus  
so cowardly dispoſe  
To worke my death, beſore he dare  
to haue his grutch diſcloſe?  
And is Catanea ſo bente  
to ſeek his vnckles ſpoyle,  
Whole long regarde hath had reſpect  
to his ſuſpected ſoile?  
K. And

## The Historie of

And hath she chosen for hir mate  
a slaue, whose like abuse  
As this, hath caused the wandring wight  
hys countrey to refuse?  
Wel, wel, for Pefistratus grutch  
and Catanes dispite,  
By saintes I bow, with present death  
I shall them both requite:  
And since the lawes of this our solle  
be thus, that who so layes  
To others charge conspiracie,  
must answer those assayes  
(Bycause he wanteth witnesse) first  
with solemne othe to sweare,  
That witnesse to be sincere, iust  
and true, that he doth beare:  
And then to bow no further grutch  
or spite, to cause the same,  
But only for his conscience sake,  
deuoyd of eury blame:  
And last, that he confirme the proofe  
therof, with manhode tride  
In courtly combat, him against  
of whom it is denide  
I doe acquise thee Antropos,  
the trial to withstand  
With manly courage, and my selfe  
that ready prest at hand

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

Give aid to thee, if succoure neede,  
and all the slaves desie  
In thy behalfe, wherein by Saints  
I meane to live and die.  
And I intend as thou hast sayde,  
the lovers for to meete  
In pointed place, whose curtelle  
I shall so friendly greeke,  
As both of them to lode with chaines,  
till Proclamation made  
Of their conspiracie, thou shalt  
approve with manly blade,  
(Gaine who so one, that both approach)  
thy sayings to be true:  
Wherein I hope the wished death  
of Traytors we shal view.  
This sayd, lest Phetratus to speake,  
whom Antropos a space  
Forsooke, till season did require  
that unto pointed place  
They should aspire, for to beholde  
the lovers: but the cares  
Of Phetratus, and woes to tel,  
and how he doleful fares  
Through his contained griefes, it doth  
I deeme eche wit surpasse,  
The grievous dolours of his harte,  
so passing painful was,

## The Historie of

To thinke that Catane should seeke  
his death, whose cheefest paine  
Was alwayes bent from tender age  
the Lady to restraine  
For eche mishap: and thus the wight,  
complained, til such time  
As ranckours rage dissuaded had  
the man to muse of cryme,  
And now to presuppose reuenge,  
the which he did deuise.  
But midst of all these tossed thoughts,  
it could not once aryle  
To him, that tale of Antropos,  
should fainde or forged be,  
But still his fandle be infozmed,  
that he should shortly see  
The pꝛoofe of al for to be true,  
as Antropos had sayde:  
And thus the wilfull wretched wight  
remayned so dismayde,  
Till time againe that Antropos  
returnde, who present is  
At season such, wherein they should  
if that they would, nor mis  
Of louers sight straight bye in hast  
wity euery thing adrest  
Therto, whereon the wights prouide  
to haue ech purpose prest,

And

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

And then they marcht in secret sort,  
and at the last drew nye  
Unto the place, where Lovers were,  
whom there they might discry,  
Enioying so their presence, as  
the vse of Lovers sette  
Doth take delight in likely case,  
but nought they did suspect  
(Alas) the mischief that did lurke,  
whereon deuoyde of feare,  
They stil imbrast and sweetly kyst  
in lurkers presence there.  
Who cursed wretches, at the last  
in rigour rushed out,  
And toke the Lovers all agaste,  
suspecting no such doubt.  
And bound as traitours them they led  
as Antropos deuise,  
To presence of Pecipater,  
who at the first surmise  
Some spited grutch, and fainde abuse,  
whereon with frowning face,  
How dare you villains all (quoth he)  
in such disguised grace,  
Condukt my sister to my sight?  
what haynous fault is done?  
To whom Sir Phetratus replyde  
what treason was begon,

## The Historie of

And how that Antropos discryde  
the same, who was content  
Uppon his body to approue  
gainst who (that durst) was bent  
For to deny the truth therof,  
(that) Pefistrate had sought  
With Catane, his uncles death  
in secret to haue wrought)  
Which when Pecipater had heard,  
considering what their vse  
And custome was: he would not seeme  
to moue no more abuse,  
Bycause that iustice should take place,  
and least his partial will  
Should cause the people to suspecte,  
some further cause of yl.  
By teares distilling from his brest,  
and sightes from beaury hart  
Proceeding fast, the woful man  
from thence doth streight depart  
To secret chamber, where his griefs  
so plenteously abound,  
That seely man in desperate minde,  
he tumbles on the ground,  
As though distraught of wittes, his payne  
ingendred such his smart:  
And he supposing of these haps,  
was bered so in hart.

And

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

And thence the woful lovers were  
to feneal prisons led,  
Whereas on hard Aleetos food,  
their heauy harts are fed,  
Bewayling their accursed fates,  
that spighte should so preyple  
To worke their deaths, whose mutual wils  
did neuer once assaple  
To do noyl, but only bent  
their constant loue to frame,  
For loyal pwofe, did nere deserue  
this thryce unhappie Name.  
And only looking for the time  
of death, deuoyd of ioye,  
With mournful tunes and painful plaints  
bewayling thir anoy,  
They spende the droule doleful daye,  
as ready prest to pyne,  
Through pinching sorowes, whom a while  
I forced to resine  
Unto their griefs, must now apply  
my trauel to pursue  
The cares of Pecipaters case,  
whose sorowes eke renue,  
And be vncessant ly so hext  
that stil he woful lyes  
Bewayling Pesistratus woes  
with sundry plaintiue cries,

## The Historie of

Accursing fortunes tickle trade,  
as eke the villains wight,  
Whose accusation had defast  
the fame and credit quite,  
Not onely of Pessitratus  
and of his Sisters state,  
But also of him selfe, whose wealth  
depended on their fate.  
Which well he waying, was inforst  
with heauy hart to plaine,  
And was not able be red man,  
his dolours to restraine:  
But after long perusing of  
his griefes, he payned sayde:  
Oy blinded soule, what fond conceits  
bath made thee thus dismaide?  
Dost thou not know thy proper lawes  
be so, that who accuse  
Of other is, by cause him selfe  
by custome is refuse  
To fight in proper his bebalfe,  
he must a champion haue,  
Whose hand victorious must intende  
the accuzeds life to saue?  
And why dost thou not then prepare  
more rather to prouide,  
In these the Innocents defence,  
to haue thy manhood tride,

Than

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

Than for to grieve thy pined hart  
in such a painefull guyle,  
Which neither doth pretende thy ease,  
their helpe, nor thee for wise?  
Go rather to the wretched wight  
Pesistratus, and learne  
If that he guilty be or no,  
by whom thou maist discerne  
With equall eye, the likelyhooe  
thereof, and maist dispose  
Thy deedes accordingly, which thought,  
he presently arose,  
And went in haste unto the meewe  
where Pesistrate remaynde.  
Whose person seene, the gladd man  
had thought that he had gainde  
A happy pray, and then he sayde,  
my friend, alas I wayle,  
To see thy wretched case so much  
in hart, that tong doth faile  
To utter what my meaning is:  
but faithful friend disclose  
Unto thy friend, if guilty thou  
or innocent in those  
So baineous faultes be, yea, or no,  
that to thy charge are layd?  
To which so spoke, Pesistratus  
againe replying, sayde,

R. b.

That

## The Historie of

That as the mighty loue of heauen  
his recompence should make,  
They sought no creatures death, nor harme,  
nor once did undertake  
Such minded mischeefe or pretence:  
and then he opened all  
The matter to Pecipater,  
as how that eche was thall  
To others loue, long tract of time  
before that it was knowne.  
And by what lucklesse means, at last  
their zealous loue was showne.  
Is, how that vnto Antropos  
his secrets he discride,  
By whom the letters first were sent,  
and matters all were tride,  
Put to none other end at al,  
but only touching loue,  
And nothing else was euer ment,  
as wel the letters proue.  
And how the villaine, prauie to  
the place of their resort,  
His forged tale hath now at last  
confirmed in such a sort.  
Because that in the pointed place  
the louers both were found,  
Who meanted nothing, but to shew  
the fruites that did abound

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

From louely stomackers, as like case  
of louers doth frequent:  
This sayde, wel quod Pecipater,  
doubt not I Mal pzeuent  
his spiteful grutch, so much as shal  
apply to him the shame,  
That he had thought to both of you,  
by forged tale to frame.  
And then bequeauyng Pesistratus  
to Gods, he did depart  
from thence at some what better ease,  
and with more lighter hart  
Than erst, when thither he approcht,  
and then to prison hide  
Wheras the woful Catane  
his dolefull sister layde:  
Of whom the matter asked, he  
like aunswere had againe,  
As did agree to Pesistratus,  
wherby he iudged playne  
The louers to be innocent,  
and that the sayned lye  
Of villayne Antropos was false,  
as he might wel espye:  
Wheron Catanea left, the wight  
his sorowes fled away,  
Did to his home repaire, wheras  
the longing man did stay

## The Historie of

Til season such as poynted time  
was present come, when as  
The accused wights (their dungeons left)  
to place of death should passe:  
Where if they had no Champion prest,  
their liues for to defend,  
They must prepare with barts addrest  
to take their latest ende.  
He then supposing to proceede  
in their behalfe to fight,  
And with the villain Antropos,  
to straine his ventured might,  
And so content, til season that  
to stay he liues in hope.  
And when in space the tract of time  
had compassed his scope,  
And that the proclamation made  
before, for poynted tyme:  
The time expyde (as time in hast  
without rest, it doth glyde)  
The season is approcht, the accusee  
are from the prisons brought  
To forsayd place, wheras their deaths  
of hangmen must be wrought,  
Except that Champion were addrest  
their doubted liues to saue,  
By conquest got: who happy wights,  
a valiaunt Champion haue,

The

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

The which vnknowne to them appears,  
in Sabels armour dight,  
And settled wel on barbed Steele,  
doth offer for to fight  
With villayne Antropos, whose guyle  
had done extortious wrong,  
He sayde, to Innocents, as he  
would proue ere it were long:  
And therewithal Sir Antropos  
doth enter into listes,  
And with a Lyons face he sayth,  
what captife here resists  
The certaine witnesse I do beare,  
and saw with propre eyes?  
To whom quoth Pecipater, I  
it is who wel espyes  
Thy forged accusation false,  
and shal perforce the same  
Upon thy carcas, spight of force,  
to thy deserued shame,  
Thou villaine slaue (quoth Antropos)  
wilt thou in the defence  
Of Traytours, venture to withstand  
my rygorous sharpe dispence?  
And darest thou (replied he)  
presume to meete my force  
In quarell false, as shal be proobd.  
vpon thy captife corse?

Pea

The History of  
 Pea sayde the one in spight of thee,  
 a quarrel iust upholde  
 And Manger thee (the other quoth)  
 suppress the pyde so bold:  
 Wherin the Heralds towns displayd  
 the Coursers meete with speares  
 In settled ristes, that franchions burst,  
 the peeces pat their cares,  
 And then with glauering blades the blowes  
 were delt in such a wise,  
 That harness & parde, the parings mount  
 aloft into the skies,  
 And sparkels beaten from their sides,  
 the Targets strong are torne,  
 The bars unbowed, the helmets hard  
 by force asunder borne,  
 The steely linkes unbeaten, bound,  
 and thus the mortal fight,  
 Now quauining the accused harts  
 now making stomacke light,  
 The one be thinketh of reurnge,  
 on Pestrate, wherby  
 With Serpents rage in finish hall  
 he lets the blowes go flye:  
 To other striving for to saue  
 his friendes from foes dispyght,  
 Like Lyon fierce he yeldes againe  
 the blowes with forcing might,

And

## Pefistratus & Catanea.

And thus the aduerfaries fo,  
had made their partyes good,  
That they had dyde the flained ground  
with their diffused bloud,  
So long, til at the laft the knights  
thus ftraining manly ftrength,  
Pecipater had pierst the fides  
of Antropos at length,  
And fo courageoufly purfude  
his foe with desperate blade,  
That downe fell Antropos to earth,  
his fatal wound fo made:  
Whom Pecipater ftraight fuppreff  
with fote, and from the ground  
With valiant ftroke he made his head  
from conquered corpes rebound.  
Wheron with ftrained loftie voice,  
the people mobde fuch cries,  
That through their hie conceiued ioyes  
they Make I thinke the fkie.  
And now the louers were fo glad,  
as though their liues renewd.  
Their happy ftate with heauenly ioyes  
and pleasures were indude,  
But little deemed Pefistrate  
the riddance of his paine  
To come by death of Kenedox  
his bzother, that was flaine.

Wher=

## The History of

Whereon they crabde to see the face  
of viliant him, that so  
Had saued their lines, and maintaind trust  
and vanquished the foe.

And when his helmet laide aside  
the louers sawe to be

Pecipater, and people viewd  
and knew that it was hee,

Oh how the people baunst his fame,  
and ioyed to see their Lorde

So valiant Knight, and yelded prayse  
to him with one accorde,

As though their voices would haue raise  
the man from mortal case,

To hiest beauens for his desert,  
amongst the Gods to place:

And so the louers ioyd in hart,  
requiting endlesse thanks

For his abundant curtesie,  
and manly Martial pranks:

That it doth farre excel my power,  
to paint in proper wise,

I therefore yeeld it to conceit  
of eche man to deuise.

But when the turmoile ceased was,  
and so the spite restrainde

Of raging foe, eche hoping hart  
by manly pwoe inflaind:

Pecipater

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

Pecipater the conquerous knight,  
with comely courtly grace  
Proceedes to Pesistrate, and doth  
with seemely armes embrace,  
Whom he with gesture like requites  
so courteously displayde,  
That they that viewde the liemely sight,  
were so in hart dismaide,  
That teares by force distilling downe  
for ioy from seers eyes:  
Their fame of gentle gesture streight  
amongst the thickest byes:  
And then his sister greeted like,  
she likewise greets againe,  
That wondrous was it to behold,  
how erst in desperate paine,  
And now in ioyes the altered time  
they spend in happy plight,  
With easy harts, vnburdend brests,  
and cause of al delight.  
And thus when outwarde vtrance had  
declarde eche ioyful minde,  
Eche man'augides the present place  
vnto his home allinde,  
And conquerous knight, with Louers doth  
proceede wity courtly traine,  
Through Tarents streetes, vnto the place  
wher as he shoulp remaine,

## The Historie of

Who when he passed through the towne  
receiued such yelded same,  
As eke the Louers for their truth  
that to behold the same,  
The tops of houses laden were,  
and streets and stalles so filled,  
And windows deckt with peoples pleasure  
as nere or very old,  
Was like conuent in Tarent towne,  
the people were so glad  
Of constant Louers saued life,  
as eke by cause they had  
Unto their Lord so vallant wight  
as Pecipater was,  
Who with the louers and his traine,  
as stil though streets they passe,  
At last arrived at the place  
of Pecipater, they  
With ioyful hart into his house  
do presently conury  
Themselues, where pausde a little space  
Pecipater doth straine  
To Persistrate his boice, and thus  
he sayde: thy griefe my payne  
It is Persistratus, my friend,  
and what thou dost forbear,  
I likewise feele, be it wo, be it wealth,  
be it losse, anoy or feare.

Wher.

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

Wherefore I craue thy curtesy,  
to yelde such like respite,  
To my good wil, as it regards  
thy selfe, as one elect  
Unto my selfe for faithful friend,  
as partly hath appearede  
By venture lately for thy sake,  
where rather I aspyde  
To dye with thee, than liue denyde  
of presence thyne: wherefore  
Know friend Pesistratus, I do  
repute thy friendship more  
Than succour of the mightiest Prince  
or Mahomet aliue  
Whose hate were able to deuiſe  
my honour to depriue.  
Since therefore that thou dost suppose  
it for thy happiest ioy,  
Thy great wealth and riddance best  
from cause of al annoy,  
for to retaine Catanea  
my sister vnto thee,  
My worthy friend Pesistratus,  
I willingly agree,  
Into the same, and what so else  
of me thou shalt request,  
To graunt thy late at all assayses  
I am as ready prest:

L.ij.

And

## The Historie of

And since thou knowest the spiteful grutch  
of Phetratus, beware

Therof, and take advise least thou  
incur a further care:

For I forecast and see it well,  
that when that I deceast

My sister clayns my ruling roome.

(hir right) she shal suppress

By currish captife Phetratus,  
then scope to every yoke,

Wherto hir carelesse uncle shal

the wretched wench prouoke:

And thou shalt likewise be so vnde,  
as wel I knowe, it shal

(If that thou do not wel provide)  
attaine thy latest fall.

Hearke therefore, oh my Pesistratē,  
attend what I shal say,

If that thou livest for to see  
my death, without delay

Possesse my place in present-hall,  
as into thy due right

By Catane thy spouse, and hold  
the same by Martiall might:

For if the captife Phetratus  
take once his entry made

Before thou canst attaine thereto,  
then knowe I, cruel blade

shal

## Pelistratus & Catanea.

Shal worke the death of both of you,  
or else your bitter spoyle,  
Wherby we pray shal be his owne,  
and yours shal be the foyle.  
Thus sayde Pecipater, and then  
he ceast for to apply  
His tong to farther speech, to whome  
did Pelistrate replie,  
With thanks his gentlenesse  
requited, that his will  
Should bee with executed care  
performed to the fil:  
And after other course of talke,  
the louers did require  
Their marriage shortly to be made,  
vnto the which desire  
Pecipater consented streight,  
wheron it was agreed  
At pointed time (which shortly was)  
that nuptials shoul with speed  
Prepared bee: and thus (their ioyes  
increasing happy wights)  
They did expect the wished time,  
and spend in much delights  
The ioyful tyde, til season that  
for which the louers stayde:  
Which time they hoped wel should now  
no longer be delayde.

## The Historie of

But wo, alas, to fortunes wyles,  
whylest thus they fed on ioye,  
And were perswaded that they had  
auoyded al annoy,  
Unhappy case (their cares renewed)  
they suffer greater griefes,  
Than al the former time, when state  
was boyde of all reliefs.  
For Phetratus accursed might,  
supposing what defame  
had growne to him through late abuse  
vnto his bitter shame,  
Began with rancour for to grutch  
at wealth of their estate,  
Since that himselfe was thralled so  
to such abased state:  
And gan deuise, that if he could  
allure it to such passe,  
That Pecipaters life were reffer,  
that then the nuptials was  
presented, whereby he might then  
as ruler worke his list  
vpon the louers, when as none  
his pleasure durst resist:  
And thus the wretch supposing long,  
perscuring in his thought,  
At length deuised by this meanes  
to haue his purpose wrought,

Which

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

Which was to hyre some carlesse slaue  
with popson to beguile  
Pecipater, and thinking thus,  
when he had pausoe a whyle  
He calde to mind a certayne wretch  
that to him selfe retaynd,  
Whose disposition fit he knewe  
to haue these matters saynde:  
To him in presence he discryde  
the summe of al his minde,  
Who soone agreed, and was content  
to do what he assynde.  
And to conclude, when thus they had  
decreede on poynted tyde,  
The place, and by what secreete meanes  
the treason shoulde be tryde,  
The wicked seruant did prepare  
his medicine to frame,  
The which so pampered, as he would,  
when he had done the same,  
In secret sorte he did conuey  
himselfe vnto the place  
Wheras Pecipater did bide  
to sit in iudgements case,  
Where he impoysned the seate  
with his infection strong,  
And euery other thing that did  
vnto the seate belong,

## The Historie of

And then in hast retrized home:  
and when the approached day  
Was come, when Pecipaters vse  
was for to take his way  
To forsayde place, whereas he did  
the contronersles cease  
Of common wealth, & did mayntayne  
the course of publike peace,  
When as (alas) the worthy wight  
had sitte a while in seate,  
He gan in such a beated wise  
in euery part to swate,  
That they that sawe the ballant so  
distempered, thought the route  
Of people to haue cause the same,  
wheron they caried out  
Their Lorde into the open ayre,  
and there the woful wight  
With deadly disgreuing colde  
saight struck, in open sight  
Unto the heauens resunde his ghost,  
hys carkas left on ground,  
Wheron was moude so great a noyse  
and such a piteous sounde,  
That well I dreine the earth did shake  
withal and rolling skyes  
Went out of common course decline  
through such their mournful cries:

The

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

The which when Phetratus had heard,  
and knowing it to bee  
his purpose, wrought as though y<sup>e</sup> wretch  
had only come to see

The cause of ruinoz, with a route  
of thousand captives there,

He present was bycause of doubt  
and his suspected feare

That people would accused hym,  
wheras with outward shewe  
he so lamented, that none would  
had iudged him the foe

Of Pecipater, for he ragde  
as though the wretched mad  
had bin for grief: when God did know  
the cursed was as glad

Of his successe in mischief wrought,  
as he that had restrainde

With Martiall fist, a vanquisht hoste,  
or summes of golde had gainde.

And then he so perswaded with  
the people, that at rest

The body was conuayde from thence  
with every thing adrest

For funerals in solemne wise:

and when the season crabde

That carkasse should be layde in earth,  
the thing was so bebaude,

L. v.

That

## The Historie of

That least, the people did suspect  
that Phetratus had wrought  
The death of Pecipater, or  
such thing he would haue sought  
Whereon they suffered him to rule,  
til season that they might  
More better know to whome the same  
were incident by right.  
But oh the deadly pinching pains  
and greuous grisly smarte  
That bannished the louers ioyes,  
and gript them at the hart,  
When woful wretches they so sawe  
the increase of crasse care  
Through worthy Pecipaters death,  
which caused their mou'n'ul face  
That they vncessantlly bewaylede  
with tears their sickle fate,  
Wel knowing that dispiht would cleane  
suppresse their quiet state,  
As woful nights to them it fell,  
it did as they did feare:  
For when the villayne Phetratus  
did see, that for to beare  
Authozity he suffered was,  
now minding to dispiht  
The louers, seeing eke the time  
so apt, that wel he might

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

Indenor his malicious wiles,  
to worke their utter thrall,  
The wicked man to counsel doth  
the chief and Nobles call  
Of his dominion, unto whom  
in presence thus he sayde.  
As I my Lords, so likewise you  
I knowe are much dismayde  
Through cause of Pecipaters death,  
and since a great defame  
It were to vs. if slightly we  
Should ouerpasse the same,  
I craue your curtesies to heare,  
and bearing well to way  
What thing as touching this, I am  
disposed now to say:  
You know how that the exile man  
Pesistrate, hath attainde  
The loue of Catane, whose wil  
would wisely be restrainde,  
For how that Kenedox accusde  
Pesistrate, it is plaine  
With reasons pꝛoofe, that he should seeke  
through pꝛiue impoisoned balne  
My death: and note you wel of this,  
that he that hath so sought  
My death, whose death no whit at al  
could pleasure him in ought  
Woulde

## The Historie of

Would likewise seeke the death of him  
(Pecipater I meane)

Whose death would yeelde him title & the  
whereunto the witch might leane

Through Catane, for to possesse  
the rounce which he supplide,

Whereon I do presume, that he,  
if it were thoroughly tride,

Were only worker of his death,  
through hope of forsayd gayne:

I therefore do aduise you, that  
the witch do not remayne

In these our partes, but that exile  
he be, whereby we shal

Both Catane the same rescue  
from such a shameful fall

As shee would get, if to the slave  
the Lady matched were,

And eke auoyde such ruinoys, as  
the people would erre.

And so he stint to speake: and they  
with one accorde agreed,

That Pefistrate, as he hadde sayde,  
should be exile, with speede.

Whereon for Pefistratus they  
did send by verlet straight,

To whom in presence they declared  
the important cause of weight,

And

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

And there commaunded him, that then  
without a more delay,  
As man exilde, from present place  
hee toke his ready way  
To forraine parts. Informing eke  
that if that he were found  
Vpon such day, in any place  
of their italian ground,  
That he should dye: wheron the wight  
began his iourney made  
With heauy hart in mourneful plight,  
and presently doth vade  
Tarentum lest, as wandring wretch  
into a Forrest by.  
Whereas he stayes his lothed limmes  
a while at ease to lie.  
And when his musing braines had tost  
the losse of former ioyes,  
And that his fantasie firly fed  
vpon a thousand toyes,  
At last, he pondering the cause  
of cares that so beset  
Vnto his pay, his griping greefes  
so greenuously did quell  
his hauty courage, that by force  
his fainting limmes declinde,  
That woful lay, as though he were,  
a body rest of minde,

Un-

## The History of

Until a space that season had  
restord the couric againe  
Which did reuiue his vital sense:  
and then in greater paine  
Than erst, the wretch bewaild, wherein  
vnto his dolors roat,  
Through painful fits, his faulting tong  
to speake was thus prouokt.  
Alas what wretch dooth greater griefes  
sustaine, than I abide?  
O whose estate is more than mine  
by fortunes spite decide?  
O whose excelle of troubles, teare  
his painefull pinched hart  
So much, as my incessant cares  
do worke my deadly smarte?  
In proper soyle I sometime liue  
a man of great renoune,  
And now like slave in forreyn partes  
I am suppressed downe  
And sometime haue I in my ioyes  
aduancit my selfe with fame,  
But now accurst in my griefes  
I liue with exile name.  
And woe to fortunes spitefull trade,  
a ioyful louer late  
I was, and Lady had, but now  
to bacabonds a mate:

Alas,

## Pefistratus & Catanea.

Alas, alas, and wilt thou then  
(Pefistratus) Delay  
To worke thy death? wilt thou abide  
to see an other day?  
Thou hast no cause of hope at al,  
for thou hast Lady left,  
And thus exile, art from hir sight  
for euer cleane bereft.  
And likewise banniſht from thy ioyes:  
for how canſt thou delight  
In any thing, ſince boide thou art  
of Cataneas ſight:  
And canſt thou now forbear, to live  
like ſervile ſlave againe,  
In toyling trade and ſhorne ſtate?  
and canſt thou ſo reſtraine  
Thy noble nature, when as eſt  
denoyde of eche anoy,  
Thou diſt in ten times happy time  
thy Ladies loue inioy?  
No, no, thy louing hart may not  
indure for to pant  
In vital ſort, if that thou ſhouldeſt  
thy Ladies preſence want.  
Why therfore lingreſt thou to ſtop  
(quoth he) thy vital breath?  
And therewithal the desperate man  
did draw from ſecret cheath

## The History of

His blade, wherewith the wretched men  
to make his woful ende,  
But that the mighty God of heauens  
did happy succoure send:  
For by good chaunce, in forest was  
a shepheard seeking there  
A strayed sheepe which he had lost,  
who hapned nere  
Unto the place where Pessistrate  
complained, and secreete he  
Behinde a thicket standing, did  
the forsayd matter see:  
Who ran to Pessistrate in hast,  
as so he was disposed  
To take his death: and on his knees  
the shepheard thus discloseth:  
O chaste knight, auoid this act,  
and suffer not thy list  
To do thy death, let manly hart  
thy forcing pangs resist:  
Wouldst thou condemne thy spirituall soule  
for matters that be vaine?  
O, dost thou deeme that such thy death  
would rid thee of thy paine?  
No Lord, it would ingender more  
such matter as thou knowest,  
Skeorne therefore this, and do disdain  
such matter as thou thyself:

And

## Pefistratus & Catanea.

And worthy Knight, let courage quaille  
the causes of thy care,

And time, no doubt, ſhal bring againe  
to thee thy ioyful fare:

And though that thou exiled art  
from preſent land, wherein

The cheefeſt comforts do conſiſt,  
yet let thy ſtomacke win

Thy victorie from doubts diſpayre,  
and do as I ſhal ſay,

Since that thou meanest not from hence  
thy preſence to conuay,

But here wouldſt liue, bycauſe thou maſt  
by ſome aduentured wiſe

Thy Ladies ſeemely face beholde,  
for fanſies fears ſuffile,

Get ſhepherdes weeds of ſimple kinde,  
with tarboore, dogge and booke,

And other things that ought to be  
of ſhepherds vndertoke:

And ſo diſguiſd, thou mayſt vnknowne  
remaiue in quiet eaſe,

And vnderſtand thy Ladies ſtate,  
which ſtomacke ſhal appeaſe:

And I pretending openly  
thy fellowe mate, ſhal be

Thy humble ſervant to commaund,  
in ought to pleaſure thee.

¶

Which

## The Historie of

Which sayde of shepheard, Pefistrate  
did curteously requite  
His good aduise, and thanking loue  
for sodaine such delite,  
Agreed to al the shepheard had  
declard, and did deuise  
In euery poynt (as he had sayde)  
himselfe so to disguise:  
And to conclude, departed thence  
to silly cottage by  
Of shepheards, where the forsayd feat  
they purposed to try.  
And thus Pefistratus, become  
a shepheard, and bedeckt  
With such accordant robes as doth  
belong to shepheards seckt:  
As boode on head, and booke in hand,  
and fastned cogge by side,  
And budget, tarbox, and such tooles  
of shepheards lusty pryde:  
In such his office for a space  
I leaue, and shal intend  
To Catane my simple stile,  
who (woful wench) doth spende  
The lott some time in ceaslesse moanes,  
bewapling spiteful fate,  
What so such sundry sorowes should  
oppress her hauty state:

And

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

And thinking that Pesistrate had  
like faithlesse fayning Knight  
Forsaken hir, for doubted feare  
of Phetratus despight,  
Bycause she knew not, how exilde  
he was through the consent  
Of nobles (so in secrete was  
it kept of the conuent)  
Nor howe he could not take his leaue  
of hir, bycause in hast  
He was compeld to take his way:  
The Lady doth so wast  
For pining greefe, that wonder 'twas  
to see how she was changde  
From former betwe, in bexed brest  
hir doleful dolours rangde  
In such a wise, and every day  
the Lady would defame  
The Knight in such reuyling soyt  
vnto his caused blame,  
In open presence vnto such  
as would to hir attende,  
That pitie was it to beholde,  
how to a painefull ende  
She liues in earth: and ceaslesse so  
she spent the ioyous dayes,  
And curst the Knight, and still complains  
hir griefes and neuer staves,

## The Historie of

But many times in desperate mood,  
in deuours with hir knyfe  
To splyt hir tender hart in twayne,  
and reue hir selfe of lyfe.  
And al these passions she sustaynde,  
bycause she only thought  
That Pefistrate had saynde, in al  
that he besore had wrought,  
And had bin fled, forsaking hir,  
whom woful woman thus  
In griefes I leaue: and gladly that  
in deuor to discusse  
The happy chaunce that now beset  
vnto their ceaslesse ioyes,  
And yelded wished ease to them,  
auoyding al annoyers.

**VV**hen long the Aganetians had  
in Appollonia soyle  
Remaynde, without a gouernour  
that should defend their soyle,  
They waying how that ought they had  
of Pefistratus heard  
(To be in Italie) agreed  
to haue it not deferd,  
But that in presente hast there should  
a posting verlet bade,  
By whom in Italie there shoulde  
be proclamation made, 1

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

In all the chiefe and famous townes,  
conteyned in that land,  
(As wel as in the farthest coastes,  
so also neare at hand)  
That Kenedoxus was depolde  
from Aganetians right,  
And that the Aganetians will  
was bent, that worthy Knight  
Pesistratus, if so dispolde  
he were, shoul now possesse  
Their lands and Lordships, as the beye,  
whose right they do conteste  
It is, and after such consente  
the barlet ouerpast  
The surging seas, in happy time  
arrived hato at last  
Italian partes: and there by chaunce  
he traueled up the may,  
Whereas Pesistrate keeping sheepe  
did silly shepheard stay:  
Of whom the barlet, passing by,  
demanded if he knewe  
A straunger, who Pesistratus  
was hight, yea, God indew  
The man with many more good gifts,  
I know the Knight full wel,  
(Quod Pesistrate,) and in the towne  
of Tarent doth he dwel.

## The Historie of

And then the messenger declare  
the cause, why he was sent  
Into those partes, and told the whole  
of forsayd his intent.

And after course of common talke,  
the shepheard thank, he bles  
In hast from thence, and Pefistrate  
surmising, wel espies

That Aganetians in distresse  
were ouer chargde with fers,  
Wherof aduise, in present hast  
the happy man he goes

To fellow shepheard and declares  
the whole that hapned had,

Who hearing of the lucky chance  
was simple man much glad,

That such vnlooked for successe  
allotted to the pay

Of Pefistrate, who shephearde left,  
doth take his ready way

In former costlye robes yclad  
(his shepheards werdez resinde

For shepheards vse) to native soyle,  
wheras by prosperous winde

And lucky ship, in season short  
aribde, he forward wends

To Appollonia, and from thence  
a friendly letter sends

Unto

## Pesistratus & Catanea. i

Unto the Aganetians, who  
in solemne wise do meete  
Their worthy kinsman, who likewise  
Pesistratus doth greete  
With trickling teares from eyes distild,  
whereon the ioyful knights  
In happy state together spend  
the time in all delights:  
And then informing Pesistrate  
of foes dispitiful rage,  
The valiant knight doth study much  
their fiercenesse to all waage,  
By whole aduise and wise forecast  
they gaue their foes the foyle,  
And then did rest in quiet ease  
and gouernde wel their soyle.  
Of whom the Rober Pesistrate  
assynde by one accord  
Of Aganetians whole consent,  
he liues a noble Lorde,  
And after space that his estate  
was quietly disposed,  
To Aganetians present al  
the ballant knight disclosde  
With long oration, how his fates  
in Italy besel,  
And how in happy state a space  
in Tarent he did dwel,

¶.liij.

And

## The Historie of

And how the spight of villaine one  
had wrought him such annoy,  
And diuers times exyde his bays  
from cause of chaunced ioy,  
And then declaring of the Dame  
Catanea, he shewes,  
His noble state and hauty bloud:  
Which Fama no more blowes  
Of duty than of his desert:  
Whose loyal loue attainde  
Of him betolde, and how by spight  
the same was still restrainde  
From his effect, whereon he craunde  
the Aganetians ayde  
And patience, that an army might  
to Tarent be conuayd,  
Wheras the towne besieged, he would  
obtaine his proper right,  
Which was the Lady, quite of force  
in open chalenge fight:  
Or else with army overcome  
by force their hauty pride,  
And suffer not one for a liue  
in Tarent to abide.  
To which request, it was agreed  
of Aganetians all,  
With Pehistrate to liue and die  
to rise and likewise fall.

Then

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

Then in hast ~~everything~~ prepared,  
and al things ready prest.  
With warlike nauis they aride  
at Tarent, there do rest.  
And after wise aduise, agreed  
to lend to Tarent streight  
A herault dight, for to declare  
the important cause of weight.  
Who with his message well prepared,  
did hast, without delay,  
To Phetratus, to whom approch,  
the herault did display  
That Pesistratus not little shames  
the fond disoaineful priue  
And open wrong that he had done  
to him, as should be triue  
Upon his body, if he dare  
in combat stand to proue  
The same, as by his propre lawes;  
and custome doth bebone  
He should: or else with armies force  
he would the Tarentes spoyle  
As neuer towne before that time  
receiued such a foyle:  
Which message done, it was replide  
of Phetratus, that death  
Should be his pay, and he with blade  
would stop his propre breath

¶.v.

Before

## 12 The History of

Before that once he would be  
in combat for to fight  
With Pefistrate; whereon he sayd  
to Herault, that he might;  
Pefistrate tel, that he was mente  
in combat for to fyre  
Against the traytour; that he did  
like faithlesse captife lye,  
To say that he had open wrong  
because he was restrainde  
from Catane, for neuer bee  
hir local loue retainde:  
And then, as there the custome was,  
with solemne oth he sware,  
That his quarrel was, and that  
therin no cauels are.  
And then the day appoynted, when  
the combat should be fought,  
The Herault byes to Pefistrate,  
and tels how eche thing wrought,  
And how that Phetratus agreed,  
in combat to mayntaine  
His quarrel good, as he would proue,  
(he sayd) vnto his paine:  
For which expected time he staves.  
But oh the great reliefes,  
Catanea (happy) did conceyue,  
auoyding al hir griefes,

When

## Pesistratus & Catanea.

When thus she sawe the constancie  
of Pesistrate, I deeme

The woman thought hir ioyes so great  
as she should Goddes seme.

And when the time appointed nowe  
approched is, when knife

Of manly knight must yelde him fame,  
and end the deadly strife:

The Lady hath hir roome in place  
whereas the combate must

Be fought. Where preasing from the midst  
of rout, the fois do thrust

Their martial bodies onto fight  
in rattling armour, set

On barbed spees and then the booke  
of solenne swearing set,

The aduersaries both do vow  
this quarel to be good,

And then the Knights with settled spear  
do seeke eche others bloud,

And meete with such a thundring noyse  
as thunder claps from skye,

Wherin ecb body boyme from sleede  
with buckling forst to flye,

They rise again, and with their blades  
so diuersly dispend

Their friendlesse blowes, & from their sides  
they fyery sparkles send

With

## The History of

With whizing blaze, in such a sorte  
as wondrous 'twas to sight,  
To view the desperate dole of force,  
and fiercenesse of their fight,  
But at the last the courage of  
Sir Phetratus did quaille,  
The which espyed of Pefistrate  
so faintly for to faile,  
Renewde with sight of Ladies grace  
his strength did so abounde,  
That with a balliant stroke from corps  
he draue his head to ground.  
And then the people moude their shoutes,  
and caps did cut the ayre,  
And happy man Pefistrate had  
obtaine his Lady fayre,  
Whose mutual loyes did so excell,  
as farre it doth exceede,  
Of any hart to be comprisde:  
and through his martiall deede,  
He won the peoples fauor so,  
that euery wights consent,  
That he should raigne in Tarent towne  
was very wel content:  
Wherby aduancst to haue fame,  
the Louers both at rest,  
The right of marriage had inioyde  
theyr loues, and (cares suppress)  
Did

Pelistratus & Catanea.

Did spend their dayes in ceaslesse ioyes,  
and died in quiet peace:  
Whose like successe in loyal loue  
the mighty loue increace.

FINIS.

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ry Binneman, dwelling in  
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